

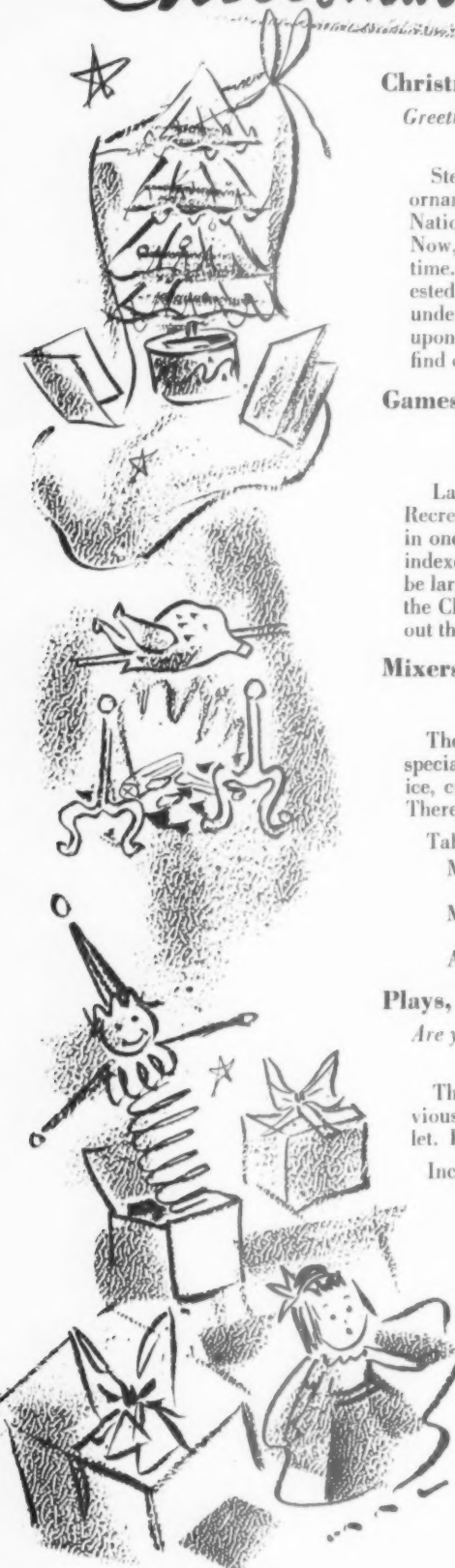


# Recreation

**WINTER  
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SPORTS**

**NATIONAL RECREATION ASSOCIATION • NOVEMBER 1953 • 1954**

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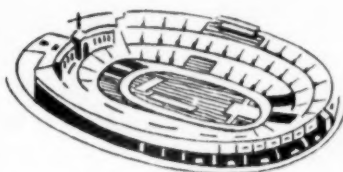
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ASSOCIATE EDITORS

Recreation Administration, GEORGE BUTLER  
Program Activities, VIRGINIA MUSSELMAN

Vol. XLVI-A Price 35 Cents No. 6

## On the Cover

Winter Invitation. Because winter is the most exciting season out-of-doors, it is to this season that we dedicate this issue of RECREATION. Photograph courtesy U. S. Forest Service.

## Next Month

Over-all report of the 35th National Recreation Congress, with pictures and other materials. More suggestions for Christmas programs. Don't miss "Tips on Telecasting," giving the know-how of presenting recreation activities on TV. Among articles of special interest to executives: "Informal Observations on Board Meetings," "Let Your Budget Help You Plan," "Wyandotte Gets Swimming Pool," and others.

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# Recreation\*

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*A Service Organization Supported by Voluntary Contributions*

JOSEPH PRENDERGAST, Executive Director



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# Recreation In Today's World

Harold Mayfield



Man has been on this planet a million years. Recently, he began building a new civilization. Today, while still building, he is trying to learn to

live in it.

The Industrial Age had its beginnings only two hundred years ago. And, for most of us, who are just a generation off the farm (the farm of the horse and the hoe), the Industrial Age is just beginning. For hundreds of millions in Asia and Africa, it is just around the corner.

This new civilization of ours has brought us more benefits than we can count. To the humblest citizen, it has brought comforts that the ancient lord in his drafty castle might have envied. It has brought means of travel and communications that hold distant promise of breaking down the walls of misunderstanding that have stood between men. To the average person it has brought leisure, which in earlier times was reserved to the few—not just a leisure of hours but a freedom from the exhaustion of back-breaking toil.

## *Efficiency—at a Price*

Part and parcel of our progress has been a growth in efficiency. Each decade has shown a measurable increase in the goods produced by a man-hour of work. This has been accomplished, in part, through steady improvement in our machines. But it has also placed some new demands upon man.

Here we glimpse one aspect of perhaps the greatest problem of our day: How can man, who changes slowly, continue to live and to find personal fulfill-

ment in a rapidly changing world?

Higher efficiency has not been achieved without our paying a price. As efficiency has increased, certain human satisfactions have gone out of our work. (And, let us remember, work still fills a major part of our lives.) The hours have become shorter, but they have become more intense. Much of the play has been squeezed out, including a great deal of sociability that human beings crave. Some of us are paced by machines or isolated by the noise of them. Many forces drive us to single-minded attention to the task, a task that is not always very rewarding in itself. And even those of us who find great satisfactions in our work and have much freedom in it, are under the pressure of the clock, the calendar, and the telephone.

## *Play as a Part of Work*

But is man so constituted that he willingly lays aside, even for a few hours each day, his desire for relaxation, fun, and those other human satisfactions we lump in the word "recreation"? Apparently not. At least, he seems not to have done so previously on earth.

Consider, for example, the earliest man. He lived by hunting and fishing. His life was not easy, but it had many rewards. It had high moments—of chase, of excitement, of triumph, of co-operation, of sociability. Take the element of necessity from it and all that is left is recreation. Ask any hunter or fisherman.

Or consider the earliest tiller of the soil. His day was usually long and hard. But there was fun sprinkled through it. Did you ever know a farmer, even now, who was too busy to talk with a passing neighbor, chase a rabbit out of a brush pile, or turn the hardest job of the year—the harvest—into a festival.

And in the recent past in the Medieval guilds and in the shops that preceded the machine, work was mixed

with fun. The pace was leisurely; children ran in and out; the place buzzed with song and conversation; and any excitement in the street was a signal for a recess.

Times have changed. And the nature of work has changed. Yet, all is not well. Elton Mayo, after many years of study, concluded, "While material efficiency has been increasing for two hundred years, the human capacity for working together has in the same period continually diminished." Sensing something like this, business managers say, "Employees are not as easy to get along with as they used to be."

## *Human Values in the Job*

Surely, there is much more involved here than what we customarily mean by recreation. Yet, in recreation we see values that satisfy basic human needs—needs intensified by modern industrial life. So it is not surprising that, here and there, a perceptive employer groping for a means of humanizing the workplace, should cast an exploring glance at recreation.

By making it easy for his employees to play together, he hopes in some measure to re-establish in the work atmosphere friendliness and good humor, which the job itself may not encourage. By giving employees a chance to know each other better and to know their supervisors away from the pressure of the job he hopes to establish a basis for understanding that will carry over to the work situation. Through play, most of it necessarily off the job, he hopes to bring back to the shop some of the spirit of "Whistle While You Work."

So in industrial recreation, I see more than picnics and basketball games; I see one little step, albeit a faltering one, in modern man's striving for human values in a machine age—not just in leisure hours but in working hours as well.

MR. MAYFIELD is assistant director of industrial relations in the Owens-Illinois Glass Company, Toledo, Ohio.

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# Letters

## Good Suggestion

Sirs:

The modern playground is a well supervised classroom with modern equipment to establish a well-rounded physical and mental basis for future woman and manhood.

We all no doubt agree on the above statement, but the average parents do not realize the great part that the playground plays in their child's development nor do they comprehend the thought and preparation spent on the operation of each playground.

My child has cerebral palsy (her only handicap is speech) and cannot go to a public school; but place her on a supervised playground with other children and she is indeed a happy child.

My suggestion for a much needed article in your fine magazine would be one entitled "The Playground and Your Child," so many different phases could be dwelt upon.

BILL HEARN, *Ventura, California.*

► Who will volunteer to write it? We suggest, rather, that the article be "What the Playground Can Do for the Handicapped Child," to be written either by a parent, giving suggestions to playground leaders, or by a playground leader who has had experience with handicapped children. Deadline for this year's Playground Issue of RECREATION is February second.—Ed.

## Located

Sirs:

Father Link is at last located. Fr. Reinold Link, O.F.M., joined the Franciscan Order and is teaching biology at St. Joseph's College, Westmont, Illinois. He is also busy getting out a "nearly-book-length" write-up on Trail Rangers. I thought that readers attracted to the "reminiscence" might wish to know. "CAP'N BILL" VINAL, *Cohasset, Massachusetts.*

► The sketch about Father Link appeared in the May 1953 issue of RECREATION, on page 118. Another of "Cap'n Bill's" series, "Personalities I Have Met—Stanton H. King," was in the October 1953 issue.—Ed.

## Church Recreation

Sirs:

I have always enjoyed RECREATION, but I think I liked the articles of Bishop Bayne and Dr. Anderson, in the December issue last year, more than

any others I had previously read.

You see—here at Highland we believe in recreation as a very necessary part of the religious education program of the church. We have a recreation building which contains a large basement game room in which we play ping-pong, billiards, cue roque, shuffleboard and other games; and we hope soon to have two bowling alleys down there. On the main floor, we have a recreation hall big enough for roller skating and square dancing. This large room is also equipped with a very complete stage for dramatic productions and pageants. We show movies there, too. Then there is a third floor room, which is really a sort of mezzanine to the recreation hall, in which we will soon have small table games, checkers, chess, and a TV set.

We are one of the all-too-few churches that go in for recreation on such a large scale. I am enclosing a schedule of our fall and winter program. In addition to the listed activities we have a basketball team entered in the local church league—and will have a midget baseball team next summer.

VERNON W. JOHNSON, *Director of Recreation, Highland Presbyterian Church, Fayetteville, North Carolina.*

## Square Dancing

Sirs:

You may be interested in some of the reactions to "Square Dancing on the Home Front," in your March 1953 issue. My good friend, Ed Bossing, a Chicago recreation leader, writes me that the article was copied and given to each Chicago caller by the callers' association. Ed is very much disturbed by the "new dance" and notes with alarm how it is killing social recreation.

The Roundup for April 1953 thought the article pertinent, called it a "valuable treatise on what is wrong with square dancing today," and indicated where it was available. The May issue reprinted the article in condensed form. The June issue published a reply to it that is symptomatic of the very trends it analyzed.

ARTHUR KATONA, *Golden, Colorado.*

## Outdoor Winter Sports

Sirs:

Having skiing advantages which we doubt are surpassed by any comparable community in the nation, we were particularly attracted by your January



1953 issue of RECREATION—its cover, the ski tow safety letter from Mr. Sicker, and "Skiing Around New York."

We hold slaloms for eight- to twelve-year-olds, thirteen- to sixteen-year-olds and open competitions which not only attract the novice and expert alike, but provide interest and an outlet for the parents and other enthusiasts who lack the energy or courage to compete, and result in their becoming "Sunday-skiers"—the winter counterpart of Sunday-golfers!

In addition to the Moore Park ski run, which is three miles from the city-center but inside the corporate limits, and includes a 1000-foot lift, we operate a sled tow centrally located within the city which attracts not only sledders, but tobogganers and novice skiers, with separate runs for each.

Our by-word has become "We Ski in Our Own Backyard." The Northwest is dotted with fine ski slopes and ski runs but Klamath Falls has hers in the city limits. Hoodo Bowl, Timberline Lodge, Crater Lake, Willamette Pass and many other Oregon ski spots attract state and national interest, but the Moore Park ski run is gaining prominence because of its accessibility and excellent snow conditions. Most of the others are some distance from a population center and necessitate travel time and overnight accommodations, which are fine for those able to take advantage of them.

The modern ski concepts of tows, down hill races, slaloms and grand slaloms are providing a new enthusiasm and appeal undreamed of in the past days when the cross country and the jump were the main recreation aspects of skiing. Being able to provide the modern in our own backyard gives us a great deal of pride. For those preferring the old, we have all the natural advantages and no special facility is necessary.

Our tows are fitted with automatic safety devices! With these and an outdoor skating rink, which accommodates 400 people but is in constant demand by 500 to 750 skaters, we feel we are establishing a remarkable pattern for winter sports for a community of 15,000. (Population center of 30,000.)

BOB BONNEY, Superintendent of Recreation, Klamath Falls, Oregon.

#### Change of Address

Sirs:

I have moved to Ruman Hill, here in San Francisco, now have a grand panoramic view of San Francisco Bay, the Ocean, Golden Gate Bridge, and so on. Would you put a brief item in the magazine about my new address.

JAMES E. ROGERS, 1280 Lombard Street, Apartment 208, San Francisco, California.

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O Lord! that lends me life,  
Lend me a heart replete with thankfulness!

—SHAKESPEARE

# THANKSGIVING

For embers on the hearth, for songs;  
For faith that triumphs over wrongs;  
For laughter and remembered pranks;  
For prayers at night—I give thee thanks!

—MAY CARLETON LORD

Dear the people coming home,  
Dear glad faces long away,  
Dear the merry cries, and dear  
All the glad and happy play.  
Dear the thanks, too, that we give  
For all of this Thanksgiving Day.

—HARRIET PRESCOTT SPOFFORD

For candlelight no wind could shake,  
For sowing rooted far and near,  
For men and dreams like these, we make  
Thanksgiving every year!

—NANCY BYRD TURNER

Heap high the farmer's wintry hoard!  
Heap high the golden corn!  
No richer gift has Autumn poured  
From out her lavish horn!

—JOHN GREENLEAF WHITTIER

He who thanks but with the lips  
Thanks but in part;  
The full, the true Thanksgiving  
Comes from the heart.

—J. A. SHEDD

Thanksgiving is the holiday of peace, the celebration of work and the simple life . . . a true folk-festival that speaks the poetry of the turn of the seasons, the beauty of seed-time and harvest, the ripe product of the year—and the deep, deep connection of all these things with God.

—RAY STANNARD BAKER (*David Grayson*)

Give thanks for raiment, and a loaf of bread;  
And for a good thatched roof above your head;  
But most of all give thanks if you can say,  
"Lord, I have courage on my pilgrim's way!"

—CHARLES HANSON TOWNE

It is literally true, as the thankless say, that they have nothing to be thankful for. He who sits by the fire, thankless for the fire, is just as if he had no fire. Nothing is possessed save in appreciation, of which thankfulness is the indispensable ingredient. But a thankful heart hath a continual feast.

—W. J. CAMERON

Thanksgiving Day comes, by statute, once a year; to the honest man it comes as frequently as the heart of gratitude will allow, which may mean every day, or once in seven days, at least.

—EDWARD SANDFORD MARTIN

And be the future bright or dark, God grant we never may  
Forget the reverent spirit of that first Thanksgiving Day!

—J. J. MONTAGUE

Thanksgiving Day is a jewel, to set in the hearts of honest men; but be careful that you do not take the day, and leave out the gratitude.

—E. P. POWELL

Thank God every morning when you get up that you have something to do that day which must be done, whether you like it or not. Being forced to work, and forced to do your best, will breed in you temperance and self-control, diligence and strength of will, cheerfulness and content, and a hundred virtues which the idle never know.

—CHARLES KINGSLEY

# Editorially Speaking

## Outdoor Winter Sports

In many ways, winter is the most exciting season out-of-doors. The growth of enthusiasm for outdoor winter sports has reached an all-time high, in spite of the milder winters which have characterized some of our northern areas during the last few years. This has resulted in the increase of artificial ice palaces and sports facilities—evidence that city recreation and park departments across the country are taking what steps they can to accommodate the interests of local citizens.

In 1950, according to the most recent *Recreation and Park Yearbook*, published by the National Recreation Association in 1951, 3,274 ice-skating areas were reported by 738 cities, with attendance figures totaling 7,923,787; 104 ski jumps were recorded by the 80 cities reporting, with an attendance of 130,399; and 268 winter toboggan slides were reported by 121 cities, with an attendance of 312,150. From information at hand, it is judged that these figures are higher today. Even in Southern California, successful winter sports programs have been promoted since 1930.

The need of executives and program leaders for ideas as to facilities and variety in activities has prompted the publication of this issue of RECREATION.

## Juvenile Delinquency

May not our present-day society be preparing the ground for, if not actually sowing the seeds of, delinquency in other ways than by failing to ensure the healthy emotional adjustment of its children? An organized, civilized society such as ours depends for its proper functioning, indeed for its very survival, on the possession by the majority of its members of a "social sense," an acceptance of what the Latins called *communitas*. This implies not only a willingness to impose restraints on individualistic impulses in the common interest, but also a readiness to contribute a fair share in promoting the common good. Living as a member of society calls for a positive not a negative attitude, it is an active not a passive role. Now these attitudes do not come by nature. Although human beings may possess gregarious instincts, every child is nevertheless born an individualist, and if he is to acquire those habits of self-denial, of seeking the good of others as well as his own, he requires training and practice. . . .

There is a danger that the advent of the new social services will be marked by the disappearance of social service. We need to learn again the lesson that the good things of life must be earned before they can be enjoyed and that it is better to give than to receive. We must beware that a generation does not grow up which looks to the State and its welfare services to solve all their problems, to buttress them not only against the normal risks of life but also against the results of their own folly and neglect. From such a soil the seeds of emotional disturbance may be expected to yield a richer harvest of delinquency than would be otherwise forthcoming. —E. Frank Candlin, in the *London School Government Chronicle*, August 1953.

"The growth of interest in winter sports has taught us many things. If we expect our areas to be patronized, much care and attention must be given to first aid and to winter sports bulletins giving depth of snow, and weather and road conditions. Ski runs must be kept well-posted. Parking areas must be kept free of snow. Policing must be provided for the purpose of protecting the public against snowballing and improper use of facilities."—James K. Reid, in RECREATION.

## War Tensions

Specialists in work with youngsters have become concerned about the effects on children of civil defense activities and the atmosphere which such activities create. As a first step in studying the matter, they have organized a group, temporarily known as the Committee on War Tensions in Children. As reported by Dorothy Barclay, in the *New York Times*, a preliminary discussion was held by school principals, psychologists and teachers, in which tension reactions were reported. It was generally agreed, however, that the problem of tensions in children was basically that of the tension in adults being communicated to children. Concern was expressed over the kind of moral values children will develop in situations where there is conflict between the teaching of brotherhood on the one hand and the pointing out of the people of certain other nations as arch-villains on the other.

## Muscular Dystrophy

Despite the many medical miracles in our era there still exists among us a deadly, crippling disease, muscular dystrophy by name, about which little is known by science. Mysteriously, it strikes at the muscles, which waste away until the limbs are rendered useless. At present, there is no known cause, no known remedy for this disease; and more than 200,000 Americans are its victims—yet they live in hope.

Their faith lies in the work of Muscular Dystrophy Association of America which, through public contributions, carries on research and, wherever possible, offers help to needy patients. The annual nation-wide appeal for funds is being held this year from November 2 through Thanksgiving.

What better way to offer thanks during the holiday season than by helping those among our friends and neighbors, who are less fortunate? Your gift may help achieve yet another medical miracle in our time. Send to your local muscular dystrophy chapter today; or to Muscular Dystrophy Association, 39 Broadway, New York 6, New York, to be credited to your community.

## Book Week

"Reading is Fun," is again the slogan for National Children's Book Week, November 15 to 21. In writing of reading for pleasure, Dr. Karl S. Bernhardt of the Institute of Child Study, University of Toronto, says: "In spite of radio and television, movies and commercial recreation, some families have managed to retain that greatly rewarding experience of sharing their reading with each other. Family reading takes many forms, sometimes reading aloud, sometimes discussing books read by all, and sometimes describing what was discovered in books. It is a fortunate child who lives in a home where books yield pleasure and the enjoyment is shared. . .

"Reading for pleasure can be a great aid to personality development if it takes its place as one of the activities of the child and later the adult. Such activity makes life interesting to the individual and the individual interesting to others. He has an activity which can provide many hours of enjoyment, which enables him to entertain himself, and which has many valuable by-products. Happy is the child who has discovered what treasure there is in books."\*

## Recreation Congress

The 1953 National Recreation Congress, in Philadelphia, will be reported, with pictures, in the December 1953 issue of RECREATION.

\* See page 356.—Ed.



## Things You Should Know . .

► AS ANNOUNCED BY MR. PRENDERGAST AT 35TH NATIONAL RECREATION CONGRESS in Philadelphia, the recreation movement in this country will have a home of its own in the spring of 1954, when the National Recreation Association moves into its new quarters. It is the hope of the association that the building may become a permanent center for all the recreation interests of the nation. A full article on this will appear in the January 1954 issue of RECREATION.

► PLEASE NOTE—THE RECREATION SONG by Pheobe K. Higgins, *Good Evening My Neighbor*, appearing in the September 1953 issue of RECREATION, was copyrighted by Mrs. Higgins, March 1953.

► TWO MAJOR CHANGES IN FIRST AID CARE have been announced by the Red Cross. The changes, dealing with injuries due to cold and application of tourniquets, have been adopted by the Red Cross on the basis of recommendations made by the Committee on Surgery, Division of Medical Sciences, National Research Council. These are described in a new supplement to the *American Red Cross First Aid Textbook*, which may be obtained free through local Red Cross chapters.

► STATE PARKS AND THE WORLD OF TOMORROW was the subject of the address by Joseph Prendergast, at the National Conference on State Parks on October 13th. This year's conference was held from October 12 to 17, at Georgia Veterans Memorial State Park, Cordele, Georgia.

► THE NEW INTERNATIONAL OFFICE of the National Recreation Association is located adjacent to the offices of the United Nations, in Room 909 of the Carnegie International Center on UN Plaza at 46th Street, New York City. Here the association will be working closely with the UN and its specialized agencies, and with the American Foreign Operation Administration (Point 4 Program) on recreation matters in various parts of the world.

► BOYS AND GIRLS OF EVERY COUNTRY IN THE FREE WORLD are eager to have

pen friends in the United States.. The International Friendship League at 40 Mount Vernon Street, Boston, Massachusetts, has hundreds of thousands of teacher-sponsored letters from them, written in English in nearly every case.

The International Friendship League has the endorsement of the Department of State, the National Education Association and the U. S. Office of Education. It is also sponsored by the Ministries of Education in these countries.

Send a self-addressed stamped envelope to the league for further information.

► THE MID-CENTURY CONFERENCE ON RESOURCES FOR THE FUTURE will be held in Washington December 2 to 4. A number of recreation and park leaders are being invited, upon the suggestion of the National Recreation Association, to discuss the nation's recreation resources.

► ADDITIONAL INCOME TAX EXEMPTION AND DEDUCTION for the permanently disabled, and allowing additional income tax exemptions to taxpayers supporting dependents who are physically disabled, are items proposed by a new tax bill which has been introduced in the House of Representatives by Congressman Rhodes of Pennsylvania and has been referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

The number of the bill is H. R. 1725 and all people interested in seeing the bill passed are asked to communicate their feelings to their local congressman and senator.

► PENDING LEGISLATION IN WASHINGTON, being pushed by Postmaster General Summerfield, is bill H. R. 6052, which would increase the present second-class postal rates by a further 40 per cent—making a total increase of 67 per cent in about thirty-six months. This stands a good chance of being enacted into law, and is a matter of great concern to all organizations whose service involves large mailings of publications and other printed materials. The bill is scheduled for consideration by Congress at its next session, in January.

► GOVERNOR HUGH GRECC HAS SIGNED

legislation authorizing New Hampshire schools to instruct in the safe and proper use of firearms, the game laws and proper hunting practices. The bill is believed to be pioneer legislation of its kind in this country.

► LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS MUST BE LICENSED in California, under a new law passed at the last session of the state legislature. The law limits the use of the title "landscape architect" to those who are licensed. Ultimately licenses will be issued only in the successful passage of prescribed examinations.

► THE MISSOURI LEGISLATURE this year passed a law creating a bi-partisan State Park Board. The purpose of the law is to remove state parks from politics and to establish a citizen's policy forming group to manage the program. Appointments to the board will be made by the governor.

► THE MIDWEST DISTRICT OFFICE of the National Recreation Association is now located on the 26th floor, City Hall, Kansas City, Missouri. Miss Margaret Lish is the office secretary. Office space and other assistance has been contributed by the Citizens Regional Planning Council of Greater Kansas City. This arrangement makes possible more efficiency and better service by the association in this area.

### Assistant Service Club Directors Needed In Europe

The army is seeking qualified young women to serve as civilian recreation workers in enlisted men's service clubs in Germany and France. Immediate vacancies exist for Assistant Service Club Directors, GS-5 (entrance salary —\$3,410). Young women who are single, college graduates between 24 and 35 years of age, with recreation leadership background, or who have participated in a broad variety of recreational activities may qualify for immediate appointment.

The need is urgent. For additional information write:

MRS. MARJORIE TIBBS, Special Services Recruitment Section, OAD, Office of Civilian Personnel, Old Post Office Building, Washington 25, D. C.

or

RECREATIONAL PERSONNEL SERVICE, National Recreation Association.

Mrs. Tibbs will interview local applicants November 9-18 at Department of Army, Overseas Affairs Division, Room 505, 346 Broadway, New York City.



Homer D. Abbott

# WINTER -

## -our Favorite Season

**W**E SHARE with our Canadian neighbors a love and enthusiasm for winter sports, in Grand Forks, North Dakota. One of the the first requests Santa gets from any youngster here is for a pair of ice skates. The outdoor ice rinks, with their music, lights and waltzes, intrigue young and old alike.

Winter lasts a long time but no one minds. Most of our 26,000 citizens mourn the day when the sun becomes hot enough to melt the ice. Those way-below temperatures, which we have often during the winter, don't stop things a bit; it's a busy time for all—from Mom and Dad to the smallest child.

For the boys, hockey is the sport; they play it six months and talk about it the other six. The girls skate for fun, and there are instructors for the would-be figure skaters. Each rink has a toasty warming house, just to keep the frost from sinking in too deep.

Grand Forks hasn't many hills, so for skiing we've had to build a ski jump. For hardy souls there is a toboggan slide that goes out over the Red River, and each park has a coasting ramp.

Hockey, as a park board activity, dates back to 1929 when one hockey pen was provided for four teams of lads sixteen years old and over. Today, with forty-one teams playing in five leagues, Grand Forks has five lighted hockey pens for its youngsters, five lighted general skating rinks and uncounted back yard skating areas. This impressive growth in the popularity of skating has been fostered and encouraged by Mrs. Frances Kannowski, Grand Forks superintendent of parks for the past twenty years.

In the organization of hockey leagues we have found that

MR. ABBOTT is the director of recreation in Grand Forks.



Each park has a coasting ramp. Facilities make it possible for winter sports to be enjoyed by entire families in Grand Forks, North Dakota.

by starting our meetings early in October, at the various schools, we are able to do a better job of team organization. For these we use the following age groups: Pee Wee Division, ten years and under; Midget B, twelve years and under; Midget A, thirteen years and under; Junior, fifteen years and under; and, Intermediate, seventeen years and under. Age grouping results in a more even distribution of good skaters on the various teams. Occasionally we will find a group of boys banded together, from all sections of town, comprising the best skaters in that age group. This we do not permit, as one superior team in a league will do more harm than good. We have found through experience that by keeping boys in neighborhood teams we have a stronger league. We allow twelve boys per team, with two forward lines, two sets of defense and two goalies—with the stipulation that *all* boys play during any scheduled games. This policy we enforce, and if the team captain will not substitute, then the official in charge of the game has the right to substitute players so that all receive equal playing time.

Before actual league play starts we schedule a "Knock Out Tournament" during Christmas holidays. This gives our hockey supervisor an opportunity to see each team in action. The round-robin type of tournament is best suited



A Grand Forks youth demonstrates his jumping skill for a group of young ladies at the Lincoln Park ski jump.

for this warm-up tourney. In this, the weaker teams are spotted and efforts can be made to strengthen them by adding players to their roster. It may be necessary to move boys to either a lower or a higher bracket, depending upon their ability to skate.

The hockey season is opened officially with a series of clinics conducted by our hockey supervisor, E. J. Bertsch, formerly a hockey star with the Grand Forks amateur senior teams. Bertsch is idolized by the youngsters, who pay close attention to his instructions and demonstrations in right and wrong ways of stick handling, passing, checking, and other fundamentals. We are assisted in clinics by the University of North Dakota coach, Cliff (Fido) Purpur, a former Chicago Black Hawks and St. Louis Flyers star, and a veteran of the Stanley Cup Team. Players from the University of North Dakota's highly rated varsity, and from the Redwings senior amateur league team, also fill in as enthusiastic tutors, referees, and critics for the eager park board youngsters. Emphasis is placed upon good sportsmanship and game fundamentals.

All of our rinks are of the outdoor type. We always proffer our best respects to the weatherman, hoping that his cooperation will enable us to start leagues the last week in December, so that we can finish a double round-robin of play by the end of February. If the weather is favorable, this means that each team in the various leagues, with the exception of the Pee Wees, must play two games weekly. By scheduling two a week, we have eliminated the problem of playing without supervision—regardless of age groups.

Each boy is happy to furnish his own equipment, such as skates, stick, gloves, head guard, and any other paraphernalia that he desires. The park board provides the goalie with gloves, pads, chest protector and goalie stick. Each rink is equipped with two sets of sleeveless playing jerseys of contrasting colors. These are used during regular league games. No sponsored teams play in the park board program. The only awards are six-inch sweater emblems, presented to the league winners. Special events throughout the

hockey year include our annual Amateur Hockey Roundup, with the park board teams furnishing the competition. This game is scheduled at the University of North Dakota rink.

The year's kid-hockey highlight is the annual series played with our friendly Canadian neighbor, Winnipeg, Manitoba. Now in its sixth season, the Grand Forks Midget A Champs cross sticks with the Winnipeg champions in that class. The series is growing in popularity, and each year the game alternates between Grand Forks and Winnipeg. This year it will be played in Winnipeg.

In the older age group, boys are scheduled with outside teams and participate in state and national play-offs.

While hockey is a tremendously popular sport it certainly isn't the end of the trail in winter sports. Girls and boys skate for fun, too. Classes in figure skating are conducted every Saturday morning and afternoon by Miss Joanne Lang, an active member of the Grand Forks figure-skating club. For those interested in skiing and ski jumping, classes are held on Saturday afternoon for beginners in downhill skiing, and are open to all ages. Senior groups meet regu-

Tractor owned by park board removes snow from skating rink.



larly on Sunday for cross country or downhill skiing. As the nature of our valley is on the level side, it is necessary for the club to travel to established ski runs in North Dakota and Minnesota. This phase of skiing—jumping—is making a comeback in the Grand Forks area. For several years the jumping program was just about non-existent. With the construction of a thirty-foot junior jump, interest has hit a new high among the younger skiers. We are fortunate in having Mr. Alfred Lawonn, Class A jumper, as our instructor for the junior jumpers. Invitational ski jumping events are scheduled throughout the season.

Lighted skating rinks, with music and warming houses, furnish many hours of fun for the family; and the coasting ramp at each park is always full. Near the end of the winter season a Little Olympic is held, with the children of the valley representing all nations of the world.

Also popular among winter activities are those of our nature club. This group collects rocks, and studies trees, birds and animals in all seasons. They make plaster of Paris casts of tracks in the snow. This is accomplished by using an atomizer and spraying water on the tracks to freeze them, then mixing the plaster of Paris and applying it to the prints. Cookouts are not stopped by weather, with tinfoil cooking being the most popular.

For those who do not care to participate in outdoor sports, the park board offers a variety of interest groups and handcraft activities.

Among the children's activities, the game centers conducted in the public schools seem to be the most popular.

These are operated from October until March, meeting for three hours each Saturday morning. A staff—a man and woman—is employed at each center and conducts a variety of games, square dancing, a story hour, group singing, and so on. The junior stamp club meets regularly under the competent leadership of Mr. K. L. Helper. For those children interested in crafts, a craft center operates three days weekly after school.

For the adult hobbyist the following clubs meet twice monthly: camera, archery, astronomy, kennel, square dancing, and model airplane.

In our handcraft classes we offer leather carving, metal tooling, hooked rug making, textile painting, wooden-ware decorating, and copper enameling. Owing to limited facilities we are unable to provide a wider variety of projects. All craft groups are limited to fifteen students per class, with class schedules set on an eight-week period. The only exception is the leather carving group, which is scheduled for fifteen weeks. A nominal fee is charged in all classes, and the students furnish their own materials. The projects vary in price from fifty cents to twenty-five dollars, depending upon the desires and ability of the student in his chosen craft. Instructors are, for the most part, interested persons whose hobbies have become avocations and who are interested in teaching others a special skill. At the Christmas season, members of the art group lead the way in city-wide window decorating.

The snows and ice of winter are welcome in Grand Forks. From October to April, this is a winter land.



Starting rack made from steel conveyers on slide number one.

**T**he slide of the toboggan run in Midland, Michigan, is like a railroad track, with vertical sides which are nineteen inches across. The ice level in the chute is kept about three inches below the top of the chute. The latter is made of two-by-eight planks for two-thirds the distance, and two-by-six planks for the last third. The planks are re-enforced every eight feet, at the joints, with a four-by-four plank three feet long which is embedded in the ground, leaving the full width of the plank for the slide.

Two eight-foot sections of second-hand steel conveyors are used successfully for each starting rack. They are ideal for this purpose, as a slight push or pull by one of the riders will start the toboggan.

## Toboggan Run

Toboggan slide number two at Midland, Michigan, showing close resemblance to a railroad track, affords the enthusiasts of this popular winter sport a fast, exciting downhill journey.





Animal and bird tracks in freshly fallen snow make interesting studies. Here is a closeup of deer trail through a brushy opening in the Black Hills of South Dakota. Low lighting is necessary to throw shadows in depressions.

### How to Take Good Photographs

★ FROSTBITE and numb fingers await sportsmen who venture out with their cameras when drifts are deep and the weather nippy. But pictures with sparkle are the reward to those who point their lenses into the wintry blasts.

Wintertime, with its snow-cruised branches, woolly landscapes and rippled heaps, offers snapshot hunters unusual opportunities for studies in black-and-white which are rarely found at any other season of the year. Most cameramen are quick to recognize the beauty of thick wet snow, weighing down branches, piling up on cabin roofs and frosting rustic fence posts. Too few see such a picture with "photographic" eyes, nor are they able to record this scene from the proper angle so that its composition may be enjoyed later by others who see the finished print.

Remember that while winter light is variable and generally weaker, the ability of the white landscape to reflect light often offsets this reduction. Exposures used in summer and fall do not hold good in winter. Because of the bounce-back characteristic of snow, this season is particularly well-suited for shooting outdoor close-ups and other scenes where reflected light helps to bring out detail in heavily shadowed areas. Similar portraits in summer might require reflectors or even flash, since there is no white-reflecting blanket to aid the photographer in brightening shadows.

### Snow Scenics

When shooting snow scenes, watch your backgrounds. A small evergreen branch, heavy with snow and glittering with

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# FILMING WINTER

Ormal I. Sprungman

sunlight, may present a striking contrast against the bright blue sky. But if you use ordinary film when you snap this scene, chances are that the excessive amount of blue will photograph nearly as white as the snow, thus destroying the whole illusion in black-and-white. If you want your subjects to stand out in relief against a dark sky, slip a medium yellow filter, like the Wratten K2, over the sunshaded lens and use a panchromatic film in the camera. The sky will then record as a darkish gray, while the snow will seem even more brilliant than ever with illumination in the shadows greatly reduced. Try the orange filter to vary the contrast or the red filter for overcorrection, and use the green filter to improve rendition of trees, snow and sky. Infra-red film will blacken the cold blues of winter, turning foliage white and creating dense shadows having little or no detail.

Lighting for winter subjects should never be flat, with sunlight coming from directly behind the camera, otherwise negatives and prints will lack the typical gem-like sparkle

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of glittering snow crystals. If crosslighting or even back-lighting is used, so that shadows fall towards you, subjects will be rimmed with a halo-like glow, and the snow will have a distinctive texture. For this reason, it is often best to shoot in early morning when snow is fresh and untrampled, or late afternoon when the rays of the sun slant low, never on dull days unless absolutely necessary for record purposes. In the Far North, of course, Old Sol rarely ever gets high above the horizon, and then for only a very brief period. When filming in the direction of the sun, be sure the lens is shaded to insure crisp pictures.

If the ground is white with snow, and the brilliant glare makes you squint, it's an indication that you must use one of the smaller f/stops on your camera for open landscapes or your scenics will be overexposed. When eyestrain is less noticeable during an overcast, try a larger stop or a slightly longer exposure.

Human eyes sometimes make fairly good exposure meters in determining the lens settings for certain types of shots, but in other respects they are deceiving and should not be trusted. You are apt, for instance, to misjudge the amount of sunlight entering your cabin window and illuminating the room as compared with the diffused and reflected light

found outdoors in winter. Similarly, it is common for beginners to underexpose shots of tree-filtered sunlight in dense woods where much of the light is absorbed by dark objects and little is reflected. When a meter is used on scenics, point it downward or come up within a few inches of the subject on close-ups to insure an accurate reading.

Since black-and-white films are sensitive to blue, which is ever-prevalent in winter, the need of a yellow or red filter to bring out snow texture and tone down the light is imperative. Of course, such filters cannot be used with color film without upsetting the color balance. Thus, the haze filter, which looks nearly transparent when viewed with the human eye, is used to cut some of the haze in distant scenes.

### Winter Subjects

Such winter pastimes as skiing, tobogganing, skating, ice-boating and fishing furnish plenty of filming opportunities. When shooting a skier in action, take a low camera position on the side of the hill, focus on a predetermined point on the slope where he will make the jump, set the shutter speed at 1/500 or 1/1000 second, and click the shutter as his skis leave the ground. To catch the skier in mid-air calls for a technique similar to that used in filming leaping fish. En-



Nighttime skiing shot on hilltop in below-freezing weather. Strong backlighting used to silhouette figures. Graflex camera mounted on tripod low on hill slope, lens closed down to f/8, shutter opened for time exposure. Then on opposite

side of ridge, out of camera view, I fired tray of flash-powder, returned to camera and closed shutter. While photo-flash might have been used for illumination, flashpowder dispersed light in all directions, adding to artistic effect.

hance the jump by shooting from a low angle with sidelighting to show flying snow against the filtered sky. Or tilt the camera to make the hill look really steep.

Strive for simplicity in the composition of winter scenes. Don't crowd in too much detail, but eliminate all non-essentials. Sometimes a ski trail or snowshoe path over the barren snowy wastes will help to lead the eye into the picture. Here, again, you can frame the scene beneath white branches. Shadows cast on the snow are clean-cut and afford excellent subject matter.



White sheet wrapped around body provides camouflage in filming wild game. Pictured on location is George Rintamaki of Newberry, Michigan. Camera is hidden under fold of sheet.

Other popular sports like rabbit hunting and ice fishing provide fine wintertime camera subjects for both movie and still pictures. During winter's duller days, fit your camera with synchronized flash, and let a midget flashbulb brighten foreground action or supplement bright sunlight by providing a shadow fill-in.

Deer, elk and other game often can be surprised in winter while feeding in open places. They will seem more curious, with less tendency to run away, than in summer. If you drape a white bed sheet about you, it is possible to sneak up within easy camera-clicking distance.

Some amateurs find that the practice of photographing the tracks of animals and birds—even human footprints—after a fresh snow adds much to the enjoyment of picture making. Choosing the proper camera angle, however, depends on the size and nature of the tracks themselves. Never shoot the paw marks so that they run horizontally or vertically in the picture. Turn the camera slightly so that the tracks run diagonally from one corner of the viewfinder to the opposite corner, and the resulting picture will be much more pleasing. Perhaps a bunny's erratic trail into a brushpile haven will describe a typical S-curve and provide composition having rare beauty.

Bird tracks imprinted atop crusted snow seem to photo-

graph better when the sun is low enough to cast shadows into the depressions. An inexpensive portrait attachment lens will enable you to bring the camera closer to the subject, while a yellow filter will cut down excessive light by darkening depression shadows and emphasizing snow texture. In close work of this type, use a tape measure to determine the exact distance, avoiding guesswork which can only result in out-of-focus results.

Visit the outlying little brooks or ponds after a blizzard and try photographing the ledges of drifted snow which hang over the banks. The black water and leafless trees jutting up out of the white covering will show extremes in contrast. Or trek up behind a frozen waterfall when the sun is right and frame a backlit shot through the dripping icicles to the stream bed far below.

You can film falling snow in action by using a slow shutter speed of around 1/10 second, but a dark background is needed so that the white streaks will stand out. Frost crystals formed on window glass during cold spells are easily filmed by placing a light source—photoflood or flash—behind and to one side of the glass, or letting the sun itself backlight the frosty pane while using a small lens stop. Care must be taken not to place hot lights too close or the frost will melt. Filming individual flakes with a microscope is an art in itself, and is covered in *Photography Afield*. Snowscapes are easily photographed by the light of the moon with a lengthy time exposure, while hoar frost in early morning is a cameraman's delight.

### Camera Care

Cold weather shooting also creates problems in camera operation. Pull-out lenses often freeze, curtain shutters slow down, and some even fail to operate. The worst bugaboo is the frosty lens, which usually results from taking a chilled camera indoors where heat and humidity combine to cause quick condensation. Such "sweating" may go on for hours during the warming-up process. Accidentally breathing on the cold lens or viewfinder may also cause frosting, resulting in pictures either lacking in definition or definitely out-of-focus. Allow ample time for moisture to evaporate before putting equipment back into use again.

Stiffness of operation comes from the hardening or congealing of oils and contraction of the metal working parts inside the camera, with the resultant slowing up of shutter speeds. This can be corrected by having a reputable repairman winterize the camera with a low temperature lubricant, or by removing every trace of oil. Of course, such a camera must be de-winterized for indoor or warm weather use, otherwise undue wear will result. An unheated room in your cabin or an outer hallway is the best location for storing camera gear which must be used repeatedly outdoors in the cold. Always avoid sudden temperature changes, and never force the camera mechanism with pressure to combat cold-weather stiffness.

Motion picture film left in chilled 8mm and 16mm outfits for some time will occasionally become brittle and even break as it passes through the gate. Some World War II aerial cameras featured electrically-heated film magazines,

camera jackets, and special filter and shutter heaters to combat the cold. Less fortunate amateurs have few such refinements available, but they can use preventive measures to protect equipment.

Keep the camera tucked away inside the jacket when not in use so that body heat will warm it. Don't stuff it in an open pocket which might fill with snow. Use a field case, if you own one, or a knapsack slung over the chest, instead of the back, so that hands will be free and the camera easily accessible and safe in case of a backward tumble.

Chemically-heated pads, charged by adding a small amount of water or snow, may be strapped around the camera for warmth while shooting outdoors. Such pads are inexpensive and can be recharged a number of times. Even flash batteries, weakened by the cold, may fail to trip the shutter and set off the lamp, and cold bulbs have been known to shatter when fired unless first cupped in the hands. Pads of this type may be used to heat up the flash outfit, and extra batteries can be carried in warm inside pockets ready for instant use.

Filming in snow flurries may produce startling results photographically, but wet snow on camera lens and gear in near-freezing weather can harm equipment if it is not wiped dry immediately after use. Keep your lens shielded by a lens cap or filter in between exposures.

Few sportsmen realize that films often lose speed at low temperatures, such loss of speed sometimes amounting to one-half stop or more in twenty below zero weather. On the other hand, cold does not seem to have injurious effects on the sensitized film emulsion. In fact, wartime photographic laboratories found that film as well as paper, refrigerator-stored at very low temperatures, has its usefulness prolonged considerably past its date of expiration. Outdated Kodachrome also can be "revived" by storage in the family refrigerator for a brief period prior to being exposed.

Cold produces another curious effect on film—static electricity. This is the same effect you get when you comb dry hair or walk over a bear rug and crackle and sparkle all over the place. The resulting spark unfortunately can be recorded on film when identical conditions are found inside your camera. Such discharges, resembling branches of black lightning, occur on movie film, and occasionally when the tabs are pulled from a film pack too rapidly static marks may result or the film may tear.

Only the most rugged person would want to process his films under conditions simulating a remote Arctic outpost. However, it may be of interest to know that, in the absence of tap water, even melted snow may be used for souping and rinsing both films and prints. Naturally, the colder the solution, the slower the development and the greater the fixing and washing time. Even solutions which have been frozen may be thawed and used again without greatly impairing their action.

The personal comfort of the photographer in cold weather is also essential to good picture-taking, since the cold may slow your reaction time in action-filming. Above all, keep your hands and fingers warm for easy manipulation of the shutter speeds and lens aperture settings. If a thin pair of

cotton or silk gloves is worn under a heavier pair, it is possible to set the camera after each exposure without numbing the hands. Leather shooting-mittens with the split palm are satisfactory if mitts must be worn. Remember that contact of the lips or bare fingers with the cold metal parts of the camera may cause painful frost burns. Dark glasses should be worn to eliminate eyestrain just as the camera lens must be "goggled" with a filter.

A German ski trooper's jacket is probably the perfect outfit for filming out-of-doors in summer and winter. It is pale green on one side and can be reversed to the opposite white side. It has extra large pockets which can carry a number of holders, thus segregating color and black-and-white film.

You can determine in advance exactly how your movie camera or still will behave under conditions of severe cold by conducting tests on camera focus and shutter operation in a frozen food locker or any refrigerated room, for an hour or more. Once you have become accustomed to your outfit, you can tell quickly by its sound whether or not it is operating properly. When the camera is used in cold climates, click the shutter several times with the lens capped to loosen the mechanism and insure accuracy.

Winter's white light has such intensity that roll films may be edge-fogged if loaded or unloaded outdoors. Find ample shade, if at all possible. Nor are high-speed photographic emulsions necessary, since medium-speed panchromatic films will serve most purposes well in winter.



## The Importance of Recreation

"We must plan on a larger scale to give American children a chance for healthful play and a worthwhile use of leisure. I agree with you that a democratic government has a vital interest in these matters.

"I earnestly hope that in each of our local communities men and women interested in the public welfare will give increasing thought and time to this great democratic method of providing recreation for all the people untrammelled by any motive except that of living fully and richly.

"The recreation movement in America is one of our richest resources. It is not only a manifestation of our capacity for finding life in the face of pressing problems, but it is an example of how our normal forces may be used in times of emergency.

"...Next to active military service itself, there is no higher opportunity for serving our country than helping youth to carry on in their efforts to make themselves physically strong, mentally awake and morally straight, and prepare to help their country to the full in time of war, as well as in time of peace."—*Franklin D. Roosevelt*

# To Start from SCRATCH

Richard Langlois



Situated in the heart of north-central Wisconsin's vacationland, Merrill is known as the "City of Parks." As if to justify this title, this strung-out city of 10,000 people boasts of twelve parks, with facilities for almost everything from picnicking and nature areas to sports fields and scenic drives. Yet, with all these parks, a few years ago there was virtually no provision for any of the winter sports.

Twenty miles south of the city lies Rib Mountain, a huge quartzite mound which thrusts itself almost a thousand feet above the surrounding plains, and the site of one of the finest ski runs in the entire Great Lakes area. In contrast, Merrill's winter-sports areas included only several small neighborhood rinks and a steep hill near the center of the town. All of these rinks, however, were on private property.

Then five years ago, the local Lions Club decided to do something to remedy the situation. On the banks of the Prairie River and near the high school lay eleven acres of undeveloped land, bounded by the already popular hill on

the west, by a row of homes on the south, and by the Prairie on the remaining sides.

Acquiring this land for development as a badly needed winter sports center became one of the leading goals of the Lions' civic service program.

Numerous complications arose, however, to block them in their attempted negotiations for the site. Legal technicalities in regard to the ownership, and delays of all sorts beset the project from the initial purchase in 1947. Nevertheless, the Lions went ahead with the construction of a warming house and the preparation of a rink. Volunteer crews staffed the center and took care of the rink, a terrific task for men with other full-time responsibilities.

Finally, in November of 1952, the acquisition of the area was completed. Then, in a special ceremony at the city hall, a permanent lease for the center was handed over to the mayor by the president of the Lions Club. From there on it became the official responsibility of the newly appointed city recreation director, Gerald Smith.

With the aid of business men in Merrill, immediate, though necessarily limited, improvements were made in the area already partially completed by the Lions Club at a cost of several thousand dollars.

The concrete block warming house,

erected through the generosity of a local manufacturer, was reconditioned. An adequate heating system was installed, additional lights for the house and rink were set in place, and a "candy bar" opened. Bill Natzke, a local contractor and Lion, donated men and the heavy machinery needed to level and bank two new rinks.

The larger of the rinks, 150 feet by 280 feet, was to be used for free skating, figure skating, and speed racing. It was so laid out that a one-eighth-mile speed-skating course could be set up. The smaller rink, 100 feet by 200 feet, was built as a regulation hockey rink and reserved for that sport.

At the rear of the warming house, a parking area for approximately fifty cars was prepared by crews from the city's street department. And directly to the north of the house, the long slope of Wilson Hill was surveyed. Then three separate runs were marked off, one each for sledding, tobogganning, and skiing.

Although the final step in transferring the site occurred rather late in the fall, Mr. Smith, with the avid cooperation of local skating enthusiasts, was able to plan and conduct an attractive program. At an evening meeting, all of the suggestions of these men were pooled and a general outline of events for both the Lions Center and the neigh-



Three Christmas-tree bonfires helped to get the program publicity and impetus.

MR. LANGLOIS, journalism instructor at the senior high school, has written much of the publicity for the recreation department. He is a feature writer and sports reporter for the local newspaper in Merrill, Wisconsin.



borhood rinks was drawn-up. Subsequent get-togethers worked out the details and arranged for volunteer help.

The unusually warm weather of late fall and early winter added delay to the official opening of the winter program. Not until the latter part of December did the weather permit flooding of the rinks and packing on the slopes.

Three big Christmas tree bonfires helped the program get publicity and impetus. People were invited to bring

barrel-stave race down the steepest run.

Figure skating lessons were arranged for Saturday mornings by two local skaters well known throughout the area for their artistry on ice.

Regulation ice-hockey goals were constructed and set in place on the smaller of the rinks, and Sunday afternoon became "hockey day." Participation in hockey has been given a boost this winter with the formation of youngsters' hockey teams into a league.

to study nature, winter style, and to learn the tricks of the woodsman under the guidance of qualified teachers.

After only one season, Merrill seems to have taken a big step toward a well-balanced outdoor winter program. Of course, one successful year has meant only a start.

With this idea in their minds, the original committee met at the end of the season to evaluate the results of their work. The recommendations of this group brought about a number of improvements in the area during the summer season.

Because the arrangement of runs on the slope of Wilson Hill proved to be a little hazardous, the entire hill was smoothed over. Then early in the spring the high school conservation classes and their instructor planted five hundred trees, dividing the runways and providing eventual shade protection for the snow packs on the slides.

During the summer, water department crews installed an inside drinking fountain and special valves for the flooding outlets. Late in July, further work was done on the parking area, almost doubling the capacity of the lot. In time, the warming house at the Lions Center, which can barely handle the crowds of skaters, may have to be enlarged and toilet facilities added.

As never before, local folks can look forward to the coming of the winter sports season.

Probably the greatest tribute to the efforts of the many who pitched in was the fact that, last year, the first in the program, more than 11,000 people either joined in the skating, participated in the special events, or just stopped in to watch the goings-on.

Thanks to the civic interest of the members of the Lions Club, to the willing efforts of those who volunteered when the call went out, and the hard work of the city crews, the people of Merrill can go on any evening or weekend to see a goodly portion of their town's children happily and safely engaged in good old-fashioned fun.

Detailed information on Merrill's winter activities may be obtained by writing Mr. Gerald Smith who has had the job of guiding Merrill's first try at a year-round recreation program.



During first year over 11,000 persons joined in or stopped to watch goings-on.

their trees to the large flat area at the bottom of Wilson Hill. There, in the briskness of cold northern Wisconsin evenings, the trees were lighted to form a huge crackling background for the hundreds of onlookers.

In addition to the many hours of free skating, instructions for beginners were given every Tuesday afternoon and evening. A skiing clinic was scheduled for four consecutive Saturday afternoons under the direction of a visitor to the United States, Mr. Tapio Tolisaari. A native of Helsinki, Finland, Mr. Tolisaari very enthusiastically offered his services.

One weekend featured the City Skating Championships for boys and girls. Both sprint and distance races were held on the oval course. An ice carnival, the main attraction for another weekend, entertained more than six hundred spectators with stunts, novelty races, and a

The Sledding Jamboree, held in early February, brought out fifty young daredevils. Races were held for distance and against the stop watch. But a new twist, sliding on the seat of the pants on cardboard, turned out to be the hit of the afternoon. The officials are probably still shuddering when they think what the parents said when junior came home after that event.

A loudspeaking system was installed to provide skaters with music every Friday night, Saturday and Sunday. Records donated by a local music store and by some of the teen-agers brought out the high-stepping waltz bug.

Not of least importance to the Merrill winter sports program has been the fact that the public school system operates a huge school forest only a half-hour bus ride from the center. Frequent trips gave both the grade school and the high school students the opportunity

## RECREATION - *A Profession*

D. K. Brace

From a talk delivered at the Southwest District Recreation Conference, Austin, Texas, April, 1953.

THE RANGE of recreation activities in this country is astonishing. Participation in more than eighty activities is reported by our municipal recreation systems each year. Expenditures by recreation and park agencies in 1950 totalled nearly 269 million dollars, of which ninety per cent came from taxes and other public funds. Recreation is a great social undertaking for which leadership is needed. Millions of people use our recreation facilities each year. Attendance at the forty-eight recreation facilities in Austin, Texas, in 1952 alone, was estimated at over four million visits. Much of the benefit which our children, youths and adults receive from our recreation facilities and programs depends upon the leadership provided; and the success of the recreation movement depends upon our recreation leaders. Our present need is for better professionally-trained leaders.

The leadership employed is of many types, including: superintendents, assistant superintendents, general supervisors, special supervisors in charge of special program phases, directors of centers, assistant directors of centers, recreation leaders, specialists for particular activities, managers of special facilities, maintenance and ground crews, and so on.

However, the heart of the leadership is the recreation leader who works directly with the people participating. This is the leader that we must be most concerned about. To be sure, for all of these positions, we need men and women with professional preparation and know-how. However, the most im-

portant leader, the one who comes in direct contact with the consumer, is the one most in need of professional preparation.

Let us ask ourselves what is a profession? The word profession starts off with *profess*, to declare, to express openly. A profession is a body of persons engaged in a calling. The ministry is a profession, medicine is a profession, law is a profession, teaching is a profession, and recreation leadership is a profession.

What does it take to make a profession? A profession has a philosophy, that is, a statement of beliefs; a profession has a code of ethics; a profession has a set of principles, that is, beliefs based upon facts; a profession has a history. Real professions do not spring up overnight; they grow. A profession has a core of professional preparation, a set of admission standards. A profession has standards for retention of its members; those who violate the code can be expelled.

I believe that recreation can meet these criteria. Recreation does have a philosophy, a code of ethics, a set of principles. Its beliefs are based upon proven facts concerning the nature of man, the nature of social forces, the nature of the psychology of human action. It does have a history, and a core of desirable professional preparation. But what about admission standards, and what about the standards of retention in the profession? Some of our recreation authorities feel that only those who have had certain college courses should be allowed to become

recreation leaders. This I do not believe. Recreation leadership is not a matter of semester hours.

Now do not misunderstand me. Professional preparation is essential for those going into any profession, and for those taking up recreation as a profession. However, recreation differs somewhat from other professions. The difference is because of the nature of recreation. No other profession is dedicated to the task of helping people to do, in their free time, those worthwhile activities which they wish to do of their own volition.

The essence of the philosophy of the recreation profession in this country is derived from our concept of democracy and the American way of life. It is dedicated to a respect for the right of the individual to develop initiative in pursuing his own interests so long as they are not subversive to the welfare of others.

Some sixteen years ago I observed recreation activities in Moscow and Leningrad. I saw boys and girls playing volleyball and soccer, men playing chess, and boys and girls swinging in public parks. But underlying their recreation activities was a philosophy of life vastly different from ours. Their activities were directed toward the welfare of the state. Our activities are directed at the welfare of the individual as a free personality in a cooperative society of free men.

In this matter of recreation as a profession there is a danger. The danger here is the same danger that we see in other fields of work for which profes-

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sionally prepared leaders are needed—such as medicine, law, and education. As a profession or a field of work becomes recognized and important we wish to improve the preparation of those going into it. We provide special programs of professional preparation. We set up standards and try to raise standards. We set up restrictions. We build a fence around the profession. We cull out the mavericks. We insist that only those who wear the professional brand can enter the chosen herd.

I would not deny that there is some justification for these procedures and that the motives behind them are honest. However, there is a danger in them; and this is especially true in the case of the preparation of recreation leaders.

Recreation activities are as varied as the interests of man. Any activity done for its own sake alone may be recreation. There is no pattern which will fit

all people. Therefore, there is probably no pattern of professional preparation which will fit everyone for recreation leadership. To be sure, there may be a core of beliefs and competencies which all professional training programs in colleges and universities should provide, but it certainly will be a bad day for recreation when all recreation leaders must have the same undergraduate curriculum.

To avoid the danger, I would suggest the following guides in the professional preparation of recreation leaders:

1. Select only those people (students) who have well balanced personalities, who like people, who have a humble willingness to serve others, who love to play, and who have good health and common sense.
2. See to it that prospective leaders can come from any field of interest, such as from art, music, drama, sociology, so-

cial work, crafts, physical education, athletics, and so on.

3. Retain only those students who can grasp the real meaning of recreation.

4. See that all have a working knowledge of human nature and social institutions, and field work experience in working with groups.

5. Do not close the door of leadership to those who are not professionally trained but make wider use of volunteer and lay leadership when qualified by a true spirit of leadership and recreation skills of interest to others.

Let us keep in mind that a true profession has a philosophy, a code of ethics, a set of fundamental principles, and not merely a set of regulations dictating to those who wish to enter it. Let us keep the door open, so that we may draw leadership from those with professional preparation in many varied fields of human interests.

## Winter Care of the Outdoor Swimming Pool

V. H. Krieser

● The swimming pool operator must contend with winter maintenance troubles. These always begin when the summer staff is dismissed and the main body of water drained from the swimming pools. One of the first duties is to remove all exposed light bulbs and fixtures. Unnecessary exposure to the elements will reduce the life of this equipment. Further, do not overlook the fact that these are tempting targets for the enthusiasts with slingshots and air rifles. The underwater lights are covered with waterproof plywood and painted the same color as the walls of the pool. All open exits and entrances are closed with wooden panels.

*Prevention of Freezing*—In order to prevent damage from water freezing in pipes, faucets and valves, all valves are opened or, preferably, parts removed. The grill at the bottom of the diving well is covered with a small mesh screen

to prevent leaves from entering and clogging the drainage system. At the first sign of constant freezing temperatures, the well is filled to a recommended height for protection against frost damage around the footings and pipes connecting the circulating system. All the other water traps are pumped dry with a small manual pump, filled with kerosene and covered. The diving boards should be removed and placed in a level position for drying.

A check should be made for any major repair work, for which there may not be time in the spring prior to the opening of the swimming season. This should complete the outdoor work.

*Inside Preparations*—The chlorinator is drained, cleaned and open parts covered. Any new parts necessary for the chlorinator, or for any other equipment, are purchased and replaced. Bearings for pumps and motors are cleaned, checked for proper operation and oiled or repacked with grease.

The filter beds are backwashed and well saturated with chlorinated water, since there is less oxidation by fol-

lowing this method. Any protective coating that could not be applied where necessary during the summer months is done during the months of September and October.

*Temperature Problems*—The oil-burning heating units are adjusted for cold-weather operation in November. The cost of heating the basement during the winter months is approximately \$255.

Maintaining a temperature above freezing in the main portion of the building eliminates considerable danger of frost damage and a great deal of unnecessary work. On alternate days during the winter months, a routine check is made of the sump pump, which carries off any seepage from the diving well and drain tiles around the building and pool. The heating unit and temperature and depth of the water in the diving well are checked at the same time. This is done one day each week by me and two days each week by one of our staff members.

MR. KRIESER is director of municipal recreation, Green Bay, Wisconsin. This statement is taken from SWIMMING POOL OPERATORS' SCHOOL MANUAL, 1952.

This training course was reported by Mrs. Livingston as "one of the best-organized held in years."

## ADMINISTRATION

# Preliminary Planning for a Good Leadership Workshop

Jean Malone

IT IS DIFFICULT to know which is more important—the groundwork before the opening date of a recreation leadership course or the personality and ability of the specialist who conducts it.

It is the belief of George F. Harris, Jr., superintendent of the Brunswick Recreation Department, Brunswick, Georgia, that good organization and well-planned publicity assure good attendance at a leadership workshop. On the other hand, he is equally positive that consistent attendance and enthusiasm at the workshop itself are dependent upon the person who gives the course.

These ideas on planning and conducting a good training program, as set forth here, are not fanciful theories, but actual how-to-do procedures as performed by Mr. Harris in Brunswick in the planning of the course held there in May and conducted by Mrs. Anne Livingston of the National Recreation Association staff.

There are many obvious reasons why a recreation department sponsors leadership training institutes in its community. A successful institute revitalizes the department's own programs and stimulates its staff members; but even more important, it establishes strong contacts for the department with such community groups and institutions as churches, schools, Parent-Teachers' Associations, military service clubs, Girl and Boy Scouts, YWCA and YMCA groups, women's and men's civic clubs and industrial plants. For each contact with adults in these groups, for each volunteer leader trained, a recreation department gains community strength. Therefore, a recreation superintendent must lay careful plans to assure the community of a successful workshop.

Once the service of a specialist has been secured from the National Recreation Association, and the date set for the institute, the first step for the recreation superintendent is to strategically choose individuals active in community groups and organize them into a steering committee. The first meeting of this nucleus group is held at the recreation center one month in advance of the workshop.

MRS. MALONE, the author, is the publicity and program chairman of the Brunswick Recreation Department, Georgia.

At this first meeting the recreation superintendent outlines the need of a leadership training course in the community, describes the program to be offered, and discusses the personality and ability of the specialist his department has engaged. He acquaints these people with the services of the National Recreation Association which are available to the groups they represent. He outlines to his committee its responsibility in securing good attendance by stimulating interest and relaying information to the groups represented.

The recreation superintendent now starts his publicity. The steering committee meeting is publicized through local radio stations and in the local newspapers. Names make news, so the releases contain the names of committee members and their responsibilities in connection with the proposed workshop. The superintendent tells the public that his department is sponsoring the institute as a public service. He describes the program and releases "teaser" information about the experienced specialist who will teach the course.

Next, he mails a supply of mimeographed application blanks to his steering committee to be distributed to members of the groups represented. Information sought through these blanks includes the name of the person desirous of attending the workshop, his address and telephone number, whether of volunteer or professional status, and the agency or group, if any, he represents. These blanks are returned to the department by mail or presented by those taking the course at the opening night of the workshop. The file thus acquired becomes invaluable to the department for later follow-up work with the adults who attend it.

Approximately three weeks now remain before the date of the workshop. The recreation superintendent makes known to friends in civic clubs that he is available for talks about the leadership course. Within a few days his calendar is filled with engagements through which he publicizes not only the scheduled institute, but his own department, and the services of the National Recreation Association.

During this three-week period, he secures time on the radio and is heard in interviews, and on community service programs, where he can use prepared scripts slanted for effective publicity. Concurrently, newspaper stories are re-



leased each week, which cover the steering-committee activities, the nature of the leadership course, and its effect upon the community by the establishing of high leadership standards for civic groups. Through these broadcasts and articles people are repeatedly told how and where they may register, and further information is released about the specialist who will conduct the course.

If a recreation superintendent in a community encounters difficulty in securing time on the radio and space in a newspaper, there are ways—at least in communities the size of Brunswick which consists of some 29,000 people—of overcoming this obstacle. Radio and newspaper people usually do not have time to do all the paper work required to cover civic projects. Therefore, if the superintendent prepares his own material and presents it in a workmanlike manner, so that it can be used with very little editing, it is probable he will be granted all the space and cooperation he desires. For the workshop in Brunswick, reporters on the local newspaper, the *Brunswick News*, wrote attractive heads for articles submitted, and radio announcers on the two stations, WMOG and WGIG, made spot broadcasts on their own. They also gave time generously for programs about the leadership course.

This constant newspaper and radio build-up regarding the workshop and the recreation specialist is bound to give excellent results. In the final week before the starting day, a climatic story—with a previously secured newspaper mat of a photograph—regarding the National Recreation Association specialist is given to the paper. In Brunswick, several people actually registered for the course on the strength of Mrs. Livingston's attractive photograph in the paper. All said in effect, "We just got interested in Mrs. Livingston and then when we saw her photo, there just seemed to be something in her face that made us want to take the course."

Now the final week has arrived and all preliminary work has been done, but it is no time for the recreation superintendent to rest on his laurels. He must triple his efforts by accepting last minute engagements before civic groups, for the workshop by now has become the community feature of the week. He telephones members of his original steering committee for last-minute urging that they register even more individuals for the course. He makes up lists of other adults in the community, such as well-known church workers, club leaders and personnel heads of local industries, and telephones them personally to urge their attendance. He also calls all ministers in the city, explains the services of the institute and how it will benefit various church organizations and asks them to make pulpit announcements about it the Sunday preceding the opening date.

The recreation specialist arrives; and the superintendent finds this person eager and willing to cooperate in any last-minute publicity plans. He has previously secured radio time for her.

By this time the enthusiasm of the recreation staff is at a red-hot pitch. A fat file of registration blanks is evidence that the first night of the workshop will be well attended and that organization and publicity have paid off. This enthusiasm is contagious and the specialist reaches the recreation



Enthusiastic "Calliope" group at Brunswick, conducted by Anne Livingston, social recreation specialist of the NRA.

center geared for top performance. The auditorium fills quickly. The success of the course now is in her hands.

The personality of the leader and her know-how, acquired through years of experience, catch the imaginations of the people. They are reluctant to see the evening end. They return for all the classes and bring others with them. Attendance and enthusiasm remain at a consistently high level throughout the course. Attractive booklets, prepared by the specialist to cover activities taught at the workshop and mimeographed by the department, are issued to everyone. Plans are made to organize a community recreation club whereby principles of leadership, games, dances and stunts learned during the course can be practiced and passed on to the groups represented by the individuals who attended the workshop.

So, the final night of the course, after the first meeting date of the new recreation club has been set, the recreation superintendent takes his key staff members and the recreation specialist somewhere for a well-earned late dinner. There, they congratulate each other upon the success of the just completed course. It gives immeasurable strength to its sponsoring agent, the community's recreation department.

#### Winter Sports Articles in RECREATION

Winter Fishing, *M. J. De Boer*—JANUARY 1950

Unique Snowball Contest, *A. J. Schara*—FEBRUARY 1950

City Ski School—NOVEMBER 1950

Michigan's Toboggan Run—DECEMBER 1950

City Ski Slope—DECEMBER 1950

Skiing—Six Fables and the Facts, *Ira H. Freeman*—JANUARY 1951

Now That Winter is Here—JANUARY 1951

A Big City Snowman Contest, *Sidney Panzer, Justin Gilbert*—FEBRUARY 1951

Artificial Snow Event—DECEMBER 1951

Ice-Skating Facilities—DECEMBER 1951

Tobogganing is Where You Build It, *James McConkey*—JANUARY 1952

Skiing Need Not Be Expensive, *James F. Herdic, Jr.*—NOVEMBER 1952

Skiing Around New York, *Stephen Baker*—JANUARY 1953

# SKI TOW for WATERTOWN

J. Charles Neal

Watertown, New York, is noted, among other things, for sudden snow falls. Sudden snow, however, doesn't always last long enough for skiers to enjoy it. It falls in heaps and melts in a day or two. People who make a business out of snowy winters are asking, with more than mild concern, if snow is ever going to return to the eastern skiboard. Is there reason to believe that we can look to other years as good as 1946-47 and 1947-48?

These two delightful seasons are vivid in memories, for Watertown slopes were abundant with lasting snow. The municipal slope's tow was privately operated for these two years with considerable success.

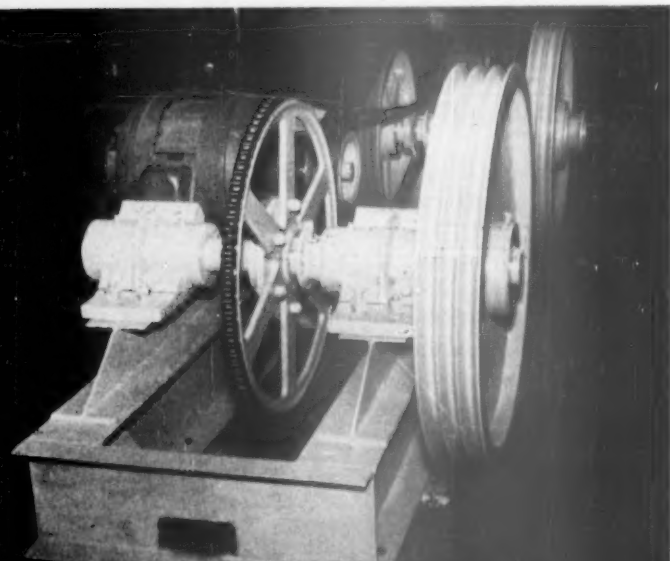
The length of the gasoline-powered tow was five hundred feet, with an elevation difference from top to bottom of ninety feet. For a normal operation of four hours the Chevrolet motor burned about seven gallons of gasoline. Starting difficulty occurred frequently during extremely cold weather, but anti-freeze protected the motor during normal temperatures of winter weather.

Seven to ten persons on the tow were the normal load for the motor; this spaced the riders about every ten feet. The ride was of approximately three-minute duration.

After the disappointing season of 1948-49, the tow was removed from the slopes in the municipal park by its owner,

*MR. J. CHARLES NEAL is the director of athletics in the city recreation department at Watertown, New York.*

**Motor is 25 h-p., 1200 r.p.m., operates on 60 cycles. Drive-power transmitted to wheel by belt drive and roller chain.**



and installed in a new location some five miles outside the city. The local recreation department, deciding that the only assured way of maintaining steady service was to own their own tow, commissioned a Carthage, New York, machine firm to build an electric ski-tow motor for them.

The project was begun in the spring of 1949 and was ready for use in that winter. The bill for the motor and rope cost the city \$2,000. The department feels that the expense is justifiable, considering the operating conveniences. Electric power replaces gasoline and oil and anti-freeze. This convenience is perhaps the only superiority of the electric tow over the gas tow, outside of the quieter performance and better starting. It is, however, a superiority which pays in operating costs and service.

The engine has two shafts instead of the normal three on most similar tows. In place of the third shaft, a live bearing was used, cutting operating and construction expense.

Drive-power is transmitted from the motor to the power wheel by belt drive and roller chain. The length of the tow slope is 550 feet, with an elevation difference of 120 feet from top to bottom. The engine runs the rope at 880 feet per minute, or approximately ten miles per hour. The rope is one-inch-diameter special manila tow rope. There has, incidentally, been placed on the market a newer ski-rope, which is a manila rope with a jacket of waterproof nylon. Moisture cannot collect, rotting cannot take place, abrasion is reduced to a minimum, and the rope is always clean. It has been tested for three years in the Laurentian town of Ste. Adeleen-haut, Quebec, and results have been satisfactory.

As perhaps the reader noticed from the tow-slope length and elevation, the electric tow was installed in a different location than the gas tow was. The department felt that to continue operation on the same slope would be to invite serious accidents. Located at the foot of the gas-tow slope is a municipal skating rink, and adjacent are toboggan and sled slides, thus congesting traffic at the hill's bottom where the tow-house was located.

Therefore the tow was moved a quarter of a mile, to a location open and relatively free of congestion. The old ski slopes, as well as the new ones, can be reached with ease from the tow's summit.

Another factor advantageous in the new location is the possibility of future expansion, both of the town and of the ski area. Since the motor is at the tow's summit, the rope can be extended any distance down the hill. At present it runs about half-way down the entire hill, servicing the steepest part of the slope. Work with a bulldozer can open more ski area in the tow's vicinity, for there are some good hills not yet utilized.

The best feature of the new location is that the skiing area is distant enough from the skating and sliding area to be safe, yet all are within easy reach of the children of Watertown. Thus, the winter sports arena is ready for the public. It remains up to the weatherman to cooperate.

● The topic of ice skating was discussed at a meeting of the Maine State Recreation Society and the experience of recreation executives in the construction and maintenance of ice skating rinks was reported. A number of these suggestions are summarized as follows:



## THEIR CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE —IN MAINE



*Preliminary Construction*—Blue clay is the best base material on which to build ice.

If you have a dark asphalt surface to flood, spread fine beach sand on it before flooding. This will help reflect sun's rays and retard melting of the ice.

Sometimes, after a heavy snow, we plow out rinks on level ground, using snow banks for the sides. We ice the banks and then build ice if the weather is really cold. This is a good program to service areas which otherwise might have no rink.

If you have trouble with a spring-fed pond, put oil drums over the spring holes and the ice will form.

*Spraying*—The ground should be frozen before spraying, and spray coats of water should be applied to the surface until the ice is clear, but black.

It takes a good man to handle the flooding or spraying.

Bulk flooding results in white and cracked ice.

Use an adjustable "fog nozzle" to spray water on surfaces.

A 1½-inch- to 2½-inch-diameter, rubber covered hose lessens the freezing of the hose and is especially helpful if widely separated surfaces are to be sprayed in one evening.

If the base surface and grade of a rink have a slope, build the ice at the lowest end first, in layers, until you finally can spray one complete level surface.

*Maintenance of Ice*—We use three maintenance men during the night at time-and-a-half pay.

Each evening, as soon as the crowd leaves, we clear pin-snow (ice chips cut up by skates) before it freezes on the surface.

Our rinks have paid supervisors who get boys, as volunteers, to clear the snow-ice off with scoops each night.

We use a Ford tractor with a scoop to clear rinks.

Ice-planers assure smooth surfaces.

Neighborhood groups will cooperate in clearing snow off the rinks.

Cinders from coal-burning trains passing outdoor rinks will cover an ice surface with pock holes.

We don't clear rinks until after a snow storm stops completely.

We clear rinks as soon as snow begins to fall; otherwise our plows get stuck and then we have to open the dam gates, let the water out and drop the snow and ice level, then close the gates and flood again.

The Maxim man-operated small snow-blower will cut an eighteen-inch-wide swath of snow and throw it fifty feet to the side.

*Hours of Operation*—We have paid supervisors on our rinks and their hours are:

Monday through Friday—3:00 to 5:00 and 6:00 to 9:00 P.M.

Saturday—9:00 A.M. to 12:00 N.

1:00 to 5:00 and 6:00 to 9:00 P.M.

Sunday—1:00 to 9:00 P.M.

Supervisors work forty hours per week.

*Publicity*—Methods of informing people of skating conditions include radio station announcements, newspapers and signs at rinks.

*Costs*—We spend \$1,200 on two rinks, exclusive of plowing costs, for a winter of skating.

Other cities reported spending from \$300 to \$800 per year for skating rinks.

*Shelters*—We use camp-type clapboard shelters, heated with oil heating convected to toilets. Two shelters have wooden floors and a third a concrete floor.

The supervisor has a cage for his public address system.

The shelters have narrow seats and are heated only ten degrees above outside temperature, which means that people have to skate to keep warm.

Heated shelters usually have only wall-type cubbyholes for storing shoes.

One Portland shelter has a checking system.

*Others*—We do not believe money spent for skating is wasted, no matter how many skating days we have, as we reach many adults and youngsters who love to skate on ice and may have few preferences for other programs.

We have many people of French Canadian descent and to them ice skating only is recreation.

We require three to four inches of ice on our natural pond so that we can accommodate four hundred to five hundred people on the surface. Two inches of ice will support a few people, but the pond is kept closed until we can take care of the maximum crowd under the best skating conditions.

We have music and lights, installed by the city electrician.

We have bleachers at one rink.

The general consensus of opinion of nearly all the Maine directors was that skating is a most worthwhile service, despite few skating days, at any cost.





"The problem of winter recreation, complicated by increasingly mild weather, may well be solved by outdoor artificial rinks."



## OUTDOOR ARTIFICIAL ICE RINKS —in Toronto

**N**OBODY is more concerned about the changing weather conditions in Toronto than the city's 130,000 residents of sixteen years of age and under. Consult any elder citizen or the meteorological records and you come up with the inescapable conclusion that Toronto's winters are milder than once they were. Last year was typical. For just about fifteen days the thermometer dipped low enough to give youngsters a brief opportunity to try their skates on the natural ice rinks that are set up throughout the city. Upwards of \$200,000 a year was being spent by the parks department in a valiant attempt to provide skating, but the mild weather defeated those efforts.

For several years the city council debated the proposal to construct covered arenas to house artificial ice rinks. But the quarter-of-a-million-dollar cost of each arena for the hundred neighborhoods totalled a staggering figure and presented an insurmountable barrier.

*Man with the Answer:* A way out, however, was offered by a Toronto consulting engineer, Clifford Austin Meadows, who suggested the construction of artificial ice rinks in the out-of-doors. Mr. Meadows had designed and supervised the construction of the Riverdale Terrace outdoor rink for private interests in Toronto, the success of which was noted by city officials, and he was retained by the city to design the first four rinks. The objective in Toronto is at least one hundred outdoor artificial ice rinks.

During the 1951-52 winter season, a total of 1,100 hockey permits were sold and general paid admissions aggregated 44,588 persons. The said paid admissions do not represent the total attendance by pleasure skaters, as the rinks were many times crowded to capacity during the free periods provided. While no actual check was made of free attendance, it is estimated this would total 256,000, or an aggregate of 310,000 persons during the season.

It is fair to say the greatest problem confronting the department in the operation of the present rinks is the boy or youth who is not associated with an organized hockey club who desires and persists, to the detriment of others, in engaging in that type of hockey referred to as shinny. The necessity of bearing this in mind should be emphasized.

There are a number of factors which must be considered

in the construction of additional outdoor artificial rinks. Location of rinks to best serve the city's needs, availability of water and drainage facilities, proximity of existing field-houses, or the erection of new buildings, size of the area, permanent or partial temporary installations, summer use of areas, cost and availability of steel, must be considered.

*Cost:* The cost of these four rinks approximated \$125,000 each, which included the construction of a machine room, refrigeration plant contained therein, floodlighting, erection of the hockey cushion or dasher, with the refrigeration being laid in a permanent concrete floor, together with a chain-link fence to enclose the whole area. Operating costs for the calendar year 1952 approximated \$61,160.

*Location and Size:* The location of each rink was given careful consideration and the Parks Committee decided upon locations in the east, west, center and north, in park lands where dressing room and toilet accommodations already existed. The rinks were located close to those buildings. The size of each—120 feet by 178 feet—makes provision for a hockey rink 70 feet by 178 feet and a skating rink 50 feet by 178 feet; and also accommodates four standard tennis courts in the summer.

*Fenced for Control:* The whole rink is fenced with chain link, ten feet high, with two double gates for trucks and two single gates for entrances.

*Winter Use:* The hockey cushion is leased to teams for half-hour and one-hour periods and the balance of the time is used for "shinny" and for skating. The skating rink is separated from the hockey rink by wood dasher boards topped with chain-link fence. For certain periods hockey and "shinny" are prohibited, and both rinks are used for pleasure skating to music.

*Summer Use:* In summer, the dividing hockey dasher is removed and "En-tous-ca" metal posts are inserted in special sockets to support tennis nets. The concrete slab of the rink is also used for dancing, roller skating, public meetings and band concerts.

*Design Features:* The floor of the rink, 120 feet by 178 feet, consists of a six-inch reinforced concrete slab, monolithic, continuously poured without expansion joints, and is constructed on a specially prepared foundation. The vulnera-



bility of such a large slab to cracking and damage requires great skill and experience in the design and construction.

The floor slab is chilled to produce the ice surface by a system of 1¼-inch steel pipes imbedded in the concrete on 4-inch centers, through which the refrigerant is constantly circulated. Special attention was given in the design to provide for the expansion and contraction due to the difference in temperature which otherwise would produce buckles and cracks in the concrete.

The direct expansion system of refrigeration is used and three 7-by-7 Inglis-Worthington ammonia compressors, electric driven with 75-horsepower motors, were installed. The cold ammonia is delivered to the system of rink floor pipes through Sporlan thermostatic expansion valves and distributors. Those valves and the main header pipes are installed in a concrete tunnel below grade, which runs the full width of the rink alongside the machine room.

The cost of water in Toronto is high enough to justify the use of evaporative condensers instead of the usual shell and tube type.

A receiver for the ammonia is large enough to pump down the complete charge for the rink.

The machinery is fully automatically-controlled, and the motors are started and stopped by the effect of temperature on one thermostat imbedded in the rink surface and another thermostat located on the south side of the machine room at eave level.

At design conditions, 130 tons of refrigeration are developed—which corresponds to 165 square feet of ice surface per ton.

The rink is floodlighted with twenty-four 1500-watt lamps, mounted fifty feet above ice surface, providing about 15 foot-candles of light.

The dasher boards for the hockey cushion are four feet high and constructed of ½-inch weatherproof plywood nailed to supporting uprights and horizontals of 2-by-6 fir. The chain-link fence is constructed on top of the dasher which protects the children and spectators from the puck. Two players' benches, with a penalty box between, are built along the side of the dasher opposite the skating rink.

The hockey cushion is sometimes leased to teams for practice periods of one-half hour to an hour. At other times it is used for "shinny" or pleasure skating.

## ADMINISTRATION

Music is provided by a system of loud speakers mounted on the floodlight poles and beamed downwards. The speakers have been modulated to limit the music to the rink, and very few complaints from neighbors have been registered.

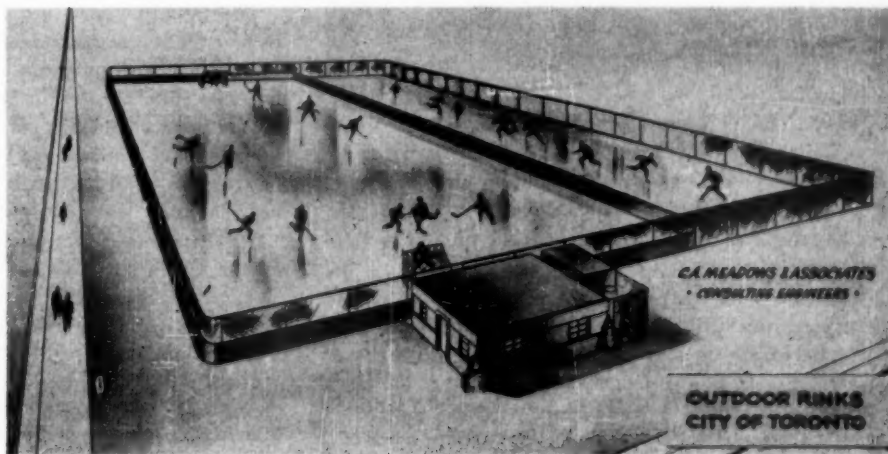
**Snow and Rain Removal:** Each rink is provided with a Massey-Harris combination tractor-snow-blower and it has been found that a six-inch fall of snow may be removed in a half-hour. Rain flows off the ice through four scupper openings in the curb.

**Accommodation:** Each rink will accommodate comfortably about eight hundred skaters at a time. On occasions, over one thousand have been admitted, but ample promenade space at the side of each rink provides for overflow and keeps the crowd actually skating down to reasonable dimensions.

**Ice Thickness:** The operators endeavor to keep the ice to from 1-inch to 1¼-inches thick for the best skating. After a heavy session the ice sometimes has to be rebuilt from ¾-inch in 1-inch. Very little ice planing is required.

### Comments by C. A. Meadows

1. I do not recommend direct expansion refrigeration system for outdoor rinks except under the most favorable circumstances of construction and operation.
2. I do not recommend fully automatic control of machinery if, as it turned out in Toronto, the union and government restrictions require full-time attendance by an operator.
3. I believe that the cost of providing a concrete slab for summer use is out of all proportion to the value received. A "take-up rink," such as I have designed for Detroit, Buffalo, Rochester, Hamilton, and Montreal, which may be laid down on a playfield or tennis court for the winter and taken up in the spring, is the best for the municipally owned rink.
4. In Toronto we have felt the lack of accommodation for "shinny" hockey for the boys during those times that the hockey cushion is being used for a game, and the best ar-



rangement is to provide separate sections of the rink for skating, hockey games and "shinny," arranged so that on occasions all three may be thrown open for pleasure-skating.

### Take-up Rink

It is impractical to lay down a concrete slab on a rugby field or a ball diamond, because that would ruin the area for summer use; the high cost of the concrete slab is also a deterring factor.

Those considerations prompted the invention of the Meadows take-up rink, which may be laid down in the fall, flooded and frozen for the winter, taken up in the spring and placed in storage. It is adaptable to all types of playing fields, tennis courts, and may even be placed in a wading pool or a swimming tank.

The rink consists of a system of plastic pipes, which are light in weight and practically indestructable, and through which the freezing solution is constantly circulated. It should be laid on a level surface. Ice forms around the pipes and for about an inch above them and is kept frozen by the mechanical refrigeration.

The system of floor pipes is fed by header-pipes located at one end of the rink; and along one side, a tunnel is constructed in which the plastic pipes are stored in straight lengths during the summer. The tunnels for the headers and

storage so constructed form seats for the skaters.

The refrigeration machinery is housed in a simple building or, as in the case of several of these rinks, may be installed on a large trailer.

The take-up rink costs about \$1.50 per square foot and is cheaper than the rink with a concrete floor.

### TORONTO SCHEDULE

*Period of Operation:* November 15th to March 15th.

#### Pleasure Skating

*Free*—Each week-day, Monday to Saturday, 9:30 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. Each Friday from 6:30 to 10:45 P.M.

The hockey cushion to be utilized for pleasure skating only on Friday and Saturday evenings, Sunday afternoons.

*Pay Periods*—Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Saturday from 6:30 to 10:45 P.M. Sundays, 1:30 to 6:00 P.M. Adults 25 cents—children up to sixteen years of age, 15 cents.

#### Hockey Games or Practices

*Hours*—Each week-day, except Friday and Saturday evenings:

9:30 A.M. to 10:45 A.M.—11:00 A.M. to 12:15 P.M.

12:30 P.M. to 1:45 P.M.—2:00 P.M. to 3:15 P.M.

3:30 P.M. to 4:45 P.M.—5:00 P.M. to 6:15 P.M.

6:30 P.M. to 7:45 P.M.—8:00 P.M. to 9:15 P.M.

9:30 P.M. to 10:45 P.M.

*Fees*—\$3.00 per 1¼-hour period from 9:30 A.M. to 6:15 P.M.

\$5.00 per 1¼-hour period from 6:30 to 10:45 P.M.

## AN ARTIFICIAL HILL

Ernie Craner

Excess fill from the street projects provided a hill twenty-five feet high with a coasting slope for two runways 150 feet long.



● In the flat, irrigation-reclaimed, desert section where Twin Falls, Idaho is located, there are no hills for sledding, skiing or bicycle coasting within eighteen miles. What to do then, in the heart of a country dedicated to skiing, skating, dog sledding, and which has a climate suitable to all of these activities?

We, of the parks and recreation department, came up with the answer—an artificial hill. City trucks dumped excess dirt and rocks from street projects, housing projects, and new water lines, into a remote section of one of the city's

*AUTHOR is superintendent of parks, recreation, Twin Falls.*

seven parks. Eventually, the fill provided a hill twenty-two feet high, with a coasting slope for two runways one hundred and fifty feet long. These slopes face the north, as they must in a section located geographically as we are in Idaho. Steps and guard rails were added on the short side of the hill and at the top, for the protection of the smaller children. One runway is straight with two large dips, the other is banked and so constructed as to provide a curved run.

The boys and girls use the snowslide in the summer months for bicycle and wagon coasting. In fact, I believe it is more popular for that use, because they ride their bicycles over the sides for the thrills. In the past year, we have hauled two loads of dirt and dumped them fifty feet apart at the base of the hill. The youngsters use the hill and the two mounds of dirt as they would a roller coaster. No accidents as yet.

We believe in a year-round program, both indoors and outdoors. We have the help of the school authorities and civic organizations; and we have a fine recreation commission which studies park and recreation problems and makes recommendations.

If a city does not have natural places for recreation, sometimes you have to make them. This has proven a successful undertaking for us.

# Street Sledding Procedures



In the City and County of Denver

**B**ECAUSE of its geographical setting, Denver, Colorado, has hills with streets of sufficient slope to permit sledding; however, the rapid growth of the city, both in population and traffic vehicles, has caused considerable street overload. As a result of this, and through the solving of the traffic engineering program, many one-way streets and arterial ones crossing town have been developed, making it possible to use neighborhood streets for sledding.

Rather than be arbitrary in the selection of coasting hills, through announcement to PTA's, neighborhood papers, and the daily papers, it is made known that certain streets may be closed for sledding provided that the following four tests can be met.

1. The hill cannot be on a through street.
2. The hill to be barricaded must not intersect a through street at the end of a proposed run.
3. The street must not be on a known police or fire run.
4. The street must not be a bus run.

The petition attached is mailed to any interested individual who then circulates it. After the parks and recreation office has been notified that a street lends itself to coasting, evaluation is made on the basis of the above rules.

When the petitioners number seventy-five per cent of the home owners fronting the street, the petition is filed in the recreation office. The highway department is then notified of the locations which it is desired be barricaded and, following their approval, their men deliver barricades and night lanterns to the originator of the petition who then assumes responsibility for erecting and removing before and after sledding.

The hours during which sledding is

permitted are as follows: 3:00 P.M. to 9:00 P.M. on weekdays; weekends and holidays 9:00 A.M. to 9:00 P.M. By using this control the night driving of cars tends to pack the snow, making it more ideal for sledding.

A very close liaison must exist between the traffic engineering department, police department and the park and recreation department. Once a hill has been approved for sledding, it is removed from the street-salting program—a common technique used for effecting the melting of the snow.

These procedures for street closing are quite sound. They put the responsibility in the hands of the neighborhood, and the petitions take the information to neighborhood residents. Getting this information into their hands is necessary in order to obtain the co-operation which tends to eliminate the hazards of street sledding. We do not permit, as a matter of unwritten policy, the closing of any street that has front drive garages; and once a street has been approved there can be no parking—as a safety measure—during the hours of sledding. With these techniques, we have used twenty-six streets, varying in length from one block to four blocks, and have had no major reportable accidents during the hours of sledding operation.

We find that the individuals most likely to circulate and complete the details for petitioning are members of PTA's, Boy Scouts, civic groups or similar groups that have service in mind.

Before such a proceeding as outlined has been initiated, be sure to check for ordinances which will establish police and court power for prosecution of those who might violate the restricted use of the streets.

## Forms Used

### Information To Those Interested In New SLEDDING Areas

A street may not be petitioned for sledding if it is: (1) a through street; (2) intersects a through street; (3) a bus route; or (4) a police and fire run.

A street petitioned for sledding must be approved by seventy-five per cent of the home owners fronting it.

All sledding areas must be approved by the Traffic Engineering Department of the City and County of Denver. Petitions are mailed to those interested *after* this approval has been made.

**To** Traffic Engineering Department  
**From** J. Earl Schlupp, Director of Recreation  
**Subject** Request to Investigate Sledding Area

Please investigate the following area to be closed for sledding:  
.....Street between .....  
.....Avenue  
and.....

### Sledding Area Request

Date .....  
Name of person making the request.....

Address..... Telephone.....

**Area:**  
Street or Avenue.....  
(Indicate "west" or "east")

Between what streets or avenues.....

Message taken by.....

a. Referred to Traffic Engineering Department .....  
Date .....

b. Action taken by Traffic Engineering Department .....  
Date .....

(Approved or disapproved. If disapproved, state reason.)

c. Petition Sent.....  
Date .....

Petition Received .....  
Date .....

d. Highway Department notified.....  
Date .....



Winter fishing is popular. Ice-Fishing Derby on St. Clair Metropolitan Beach, Michigan.

## Town and Country WINTER DOINGS

*Help yourself to an Idea!*

### Snow Frolic

A UNIQUE FEATURE of this affair in Providence, Rhode Island, last year was a *snowball hunt*—open to all boys and girls between the ages of five and ten years. Each contestant was required to look for hidden clues without assistance. These were concealed in artificial and genuine snowballs—some clues being false and others true—to guide contestants to the “jack pot.” The course of the hunt was marked with a Santa Claus, Christmas canes, wreaths, snowmen, Christmas bells, reindeer and arrows.

A *snow man contest* went on simultaneously and a contestant was not allowed to participate in both events. Classes and rules were as follows:

1. *Midget Class*, ages five to seven years—Parents may assist their children as a team, that is—father and son, or mother and daughter, form team. Team shall work together.
2. *Junior Class*, ages eight to ten years—Adults may not help with actual modeling of snowman, but may give advice.
3. *Intermediate Class*, ages eleven to thirteen years—Contestants are forbidden to receive help or guidance from adults.
  - A. The contestants must bring their own tools, such as wooden paddles, pieces of tin, pocket knives, decorative paraphernalia and any other tools necessary to fashion and shape snowman. No shovels, forms or casts are permissible.
  - B. The department of recreation shall supply artificial snow, if no snow is to be had, also shall provide water, water pails, water barrels, colors and brushes to paint the snowmen.

*Scoring basis:* height—30 points; appearance and proportions—40 points; design—20 points; originality—10 points.

Santa Claus was among the Snow Frolic guests, and presented a candy cane and a balloon to each boy and girl.

Prizes for all included a surprise for the winning dad and mother who took part in the *snowman contest*.

### Some Enchanted Evening

An outdoor winter carnival, accompanied by lights, music and the ring of steel on ice—and you would hardly have

guessed that you were in the heart of New York City. This spectacle-under-the-stars was put on last year through the cooperation of a newspaper—*New York Daily Mirror*—and the department of parks, and could well serve as a pattern for other large communities. The Wollman Memorial Rink, scene of festivities, is an artificial rink, of course, which was donated to the city by Miss Kate Wollman. (See page 538, March 1951 issue of RECREATION).

The program of the gay outdoor festival included not only a costume parade and championship races for teen-agers, but dazzling performances by well-known skating stars. Plenty of action was contributed, too, by the junior Rangers and Rovers hockey teams. Prizes were given to the winners of events, and for various categories of costumes.

### Jack Frost Carnival

The park board in Fargo, North Dakota, issued a pamphlet on skating, last year, entitled *To Your Health for the New Year 1952*, in which they they announced their annual ice carnival, for February 7 to 11, as follows:

Few may realize that this production is under-written by the Fargo Junior Chamber of Commerce. Last year, the first number in the program incuded more than a hundred beginning skaters. Like the Fargo-Moorhead Civic Orchestra, the Fargo-Moorhead Community Theatre and the several choruses, citizens of the community are joining in this ice revue to produce first class entertainment for many out-of-town visitors and ourselves. Those who give of their time and skills are blessed by rewards of generous cooperation. Such activities build a better city. . . .

Why not avail yourself of the chance to skate as you like it? If you are between the ages of three and eighty you are qualified. There is provision for all tastes and all abilities.

### White Falcon Ski School

If the head of the lakes does not produce an Olympic skier or two within the next few years it will not be the fault of the recreation committee or the famous ski club of Fort William. This district claims to have the finest skiing terrain in Ontario.

Last year the Civic Recreation Committee and the Fort



William Ski Club, with some assistance from the Community Programmes Branch of the Department of Education, Toronto, cooperated to provide ski instruction for the city's school children on seven Saturday mornings.

Early in the year circulars with registration forms were sent out to all the city schools. Bus schedules were arranged by the Civic Recreation Committee and the children were picked up at various points. A mixed load of children and skis is apt to be unmanageable so a parks board truck was used to transport the skis. Each instruction period lasted from three to three-and-a-half hours. In order to sustain the initial interest throughout the course, a cup was given to the school with the best aggregate attendance, in addition to the individual proficiency awards.

Fort Williams's fine ski club, on the wooded slopes of 1000-foot Mount McKay, is an inspiring locale for these classes. The club is within a few minutes of the city limits and is equipped with tows and a modern clubhouse. Two of the most successful Dominion Ski Championship meets have been held there, 1939 and 1949. The club's pro, Bob Morgan, lent his talents to the school and eight of the members served as voluntary instructors. About 150 boys and girls attended the White Falcon Ski School last winter.—Reprinted from *Community Courier*, November 1952.

#### A New Wrinkle

A new wrinkle in tobogganing, in Minneapolis, Minnesota, is to use inner tubes which are inflated to near capacity. This is a new, novel and safe way to have fun in the snow, and the spinning motion of the tubes on the slick hill adds to the thrill of sliding. (See picture on page 352.) The sport is sponsored by the Suburban Recreation Association.

#### Operation Noranda

Nearly 500 miles north-west of Montreal, Quebec, in the heart of Canada's northland mining country, a novel experiment is taking place which may set a new trend in the realm of industrial recreation. Here, in the City of Noranda, is situated one of the world's greatest copper-producers, Noranda Mines Ltd. Also in this district are some of Canada's most famous gold mines and a number of smaller mining properties.

Over a period of years, Noranda Mines Ltd., has built many recreation facilities for the citizens of Rouyn-Noranda. Early in 1950 work was commenced on the Noranda Recreation Centre which is rated one of the finest in North America. It contains a complete arena with artificial ice and a seating capacity of 2500; a beautiful curling unit with six lanes of artificial ice; a modern fully-equipped gymnasium; and many other areas and facilities for social, cultural, educational and recreational activities. The total value of this immense recreational development is estimated at more than two million dollars.

The Noranda Recreation Association was formed and incorporated as a non-profit-making service organization to administer the affairs of the Noranda Recreation Centre. The Centre as a whole, together with its various outdoor extensions, was placed at the disposal of all citizens in the

community with no distinction drawn between employees and non-employees.

Ordinarily an industrial recreation department attempts to serve only the recreational needs of employees or their families. In the Noranda set-up it was felt that it was necessary to serve the entire community in order to effectively serve any one part of it. Noranda Mine officials recognized the fact that work alone divided employees from non-employees and that no boundaries existed in the social, cultural and recreational life outside of working hours.

A highly qualified staff of experts was recruited to head up the various major departments which were established. The total full-time staff numbers twenty-one persons, and many part-time helpers are employed. In addition, a host of volunteer leaders give assistance with the various aspects of the diversified program.

A tremendous year-round indoor and outdoor program has been organized, which reaches into every home in the community and includes almost every phase of social, cultural, and recreational life. The Centre operates year in and year out, sixteen hours per day and seven days per week.

In order to finance this ambitious undertaking, basic membership fees are charged to most individuals and groups making use of the Centre facilities. Exceptions are made in the case of certain charitable organizations and there are no charges for a number of community-wide activities.



Ski-joring, carefully supervised, can be added to your fun. Try out on snow-covered surface of frozen lake or along a snow-packed country road. Scene is from Ontario, Canada.

The basic fees have been kept as low as possible to encourage maximum use of facilities and participation in activities. Additional revenue is raised through the promotion of spectator-sports and other special events on a commercial basis and the operation of snack bar concessions.

Revenues derived from the commercial enterprises go toward meeting the deficits incurred in the promotion of participant-activities. All remaining deficits are covered by Noranda Mines Ltd.—Reprinted from the *Community Courier*, February 1953.



Coasting is always enjoyed, be it on tin plates, inner tubes, steel runners or on toboggans.



Artificial snow is supplied youngsters by the San Gabriel Recreation Department, California, for "real snow" event.



Group in Wolf Creek Pass, Rio Grande National Forest, Colorado. Shelter houses provided skiers in national parks.

## Today's Winter

**T**HE ENFORCED idleness and indoor life of the "snow-bound" communities of yesteryear are at an end, and outdoor winter sports activities have taken over. Skill, variety, and health, have increased proportionately as, today, these same communities boast of winter sports areas and facilities. "Snowtrains," bristling with winter equipment and enthusiastic weekenders and vacationists, unload in the small mountain communities, and in state and national parks and forests. Resorts, such as Sun Valley and Lake Placid, are well established; and winter sports have become "big business." They are here to stay. When the snowflakes refuse to fall, activities are continued in new outdoor and indoor rinks and ice palaces. City parks play areas are, wherever possible, taking steps to accommodate local enthusiasts.

On these pages appear a few of the many sports that lure our population into the winter out-of-doors.

Stunts and novelties are a part of the ice carnival in Merrill, Wisconsin. See story of this program on page 338.



# Activities



The Dog Sled Derby in Manitowoc, Wisconsin, brings out admiring spectators.



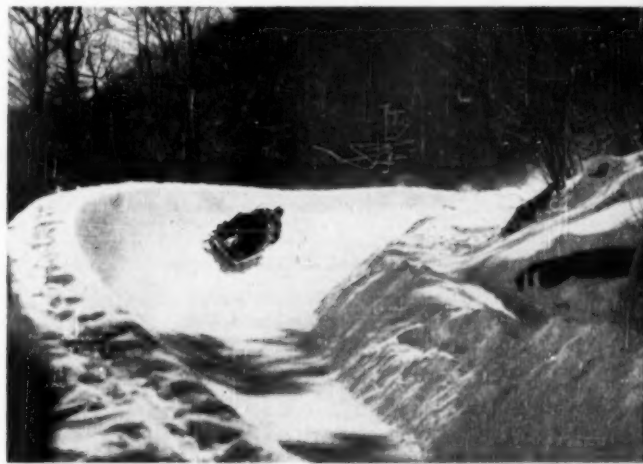
Group skiing through the bush as practiced in Beaver Valley, Ontario, is a popular part of the northern season.



Snowman building contest in Central Park, New York City. This annual activity is sponsored by the park department, and New York *Daily Mirror*.



Snow sculpture of pioneer covered wagon, built at Sun Valley where an unusual variety of outdoor sports is offered.



Sledding on Olympic Bobsled Run, Lake Placid. International competition brings people from afar to watch the contests.



Curling, which is a fine family game, probably attracts more participants than any other winter sport in Canada. Note pebbled surface above.

## "The ROARIN' Game"

C. Lorne Davidson

THE ORIGIN OF CURLING is unknown. Many countries claim credit for its creation. Chiefly among these are Scotland and Flanders. However, there is no evidence that this sport was enjoyed in any part of the Netherlands before Scotland had raised curling to a major sport. While workmen were draining a pond near Dunbane about sixty years ago they came upon a curling stone containing the date 1551.<sup>1</sup> In the tongue of the Scotsmen the stone is referred to as the "stane." For some time it was customary to refer to curling as "the game of lawn bowls played on ice." Many verses and songs have been written about it such as the following:

### THE MUSIC OF THE YEAR IS HUSHED

The music of the year is hushed  
In bonny glen and shaw, man,  
An' winter spreads, o'er nature dead,  
A winding-sheet o' snaw, man;  
O'er burn and loch the warlock, frost,  
A crystal brig has laid, man,  
The wild geese, screaming wi' surprise,  
The ice-bound wave ha'e fled, man.

Up, curler, leave your bed sae warm,  
And leave your coaxing wife, man,  
Gae, get your besom, trickers, stanes,  
And join the friendly strife, man;  
For on the water's face are met,  
Wi' mony a merry joke, man,  
The Tenant and his jolly laird,  
The pastor and his flock, man.

The rink is swept, the tees are marked,  
The bonspiel is begun, man;  
The ice is true, the stanes are keen;  
Huzza, for glorious fun, man,  
The skips are standing on the tee  
To guide the eager game, man;  
Hush, no a word—but mark the broom,  
And take a steady aim, man.

Here draw a shot—there lay a guard,  
And here beside him lie, man,  
Now let him feel a gamester's hand,  
Now in his bosom die, man,  
There fill the port, and block the ice,  
We sit upon the tee, man;  
Now tak' this inring sharp and neat,  
And mak' the winner flee, man.

How stands the game? It's eight and eight:  
Now for the winning shot, man,  
Draw slow and sure, the ice is keen,  
I'll sweep you to the spot, man,  
The stane is thrown, it glides along,  
The besoms ply it in, man,  
Wi' twisting back the players stand,  
And eager, breathless grin, man.

A moment's silence, still as death,  
Pervades the anxious thrang, man,  
Then sudden bursts the victor's shout,  
Wi' hollas, loud and lang, man;  
Triumphant besoms wave in air,  
And friendly banter fly, man,  
Whilst, cauld and hungry, to the inn,  
Wi' eager steps, they hie, man.

Now fill ae bumper—fill but ane,  
And drink wi' social glee, man,  
May curlers on life's slippery rink  
Frae cruel rubs be free, man,  
Or should a treacherous bias lead  
Their erring steps a-jee, man,  
Some friendly inring may they meet  
To guide them to the tee, man.<sup>2</sup>

The standard stone used today weighs forty-four pounds, is thirty-six inches in circumference and four-and-a-half inches in height (maximum measurements). If a stone is broken during a game no substitute stone is permitted, the largest fragment being used in its place. The stone is delivered by means of a handle, counter sunk in the top surface of the stone.

<sup>1</sup> *Encyclopedia of Sports* by Frank G. Menke. Copyright 1944 by A. S. Barnes & Company, Incorporated.

<sup>2</sup> *Curling—The Ancient Scottish Game* by James Taylor, D.D. Copyright 1884 by William Paterson, Edinburgh. Page 372.



The game is played on ice, the total length of the rink being forty-two yards. The ends of the rink are called hacks. This name comes from the foot holds which are hacked out of the ice.

The teams are made up of four members, and each player curls two stones alternately with his opponent. The player in position in the hack swings the stone back clear of the ice and delivers it by a follow through, letting it skim the ice surface. At the instant the player releases the stone, the handle is allowed to take a slight turn, either an in-turn or an out-turn; this imparts the curling action, which is a long curve. The amount of force put into the shot depends upon the orders of the "skip," and the condition of the ice.

Each team consists of a lead man, usually the novice of the team; No. 2 man who plays second; No. 3 who is next to the skip in proficiency; and the skip or captain of the team. The skip figures out the plays and designates with his broom where he wants the stone laid. He calls for either an in-turn or out-turn, a running shot, or a guard. He then holds his broom on the ice for the player to shoot or aim at. He will designate, by calling, what weight he thinks the play needs, that is, the force the player is to put into the shot.

The broom, or besom, is an essential part of the game, being used by the skip and also by the other players of the team who sweep ahead of the stone upon orders from the skip. This action is said to create a vacuum in front of the moving stone, thus enabling the shot to travel a greater distance. This matter is sometimes disputed by players and has even been scientifically experimented with. However, there is no substantial evidence for or against the sweeping. One thing that players are sure of is that it keeps them warm and active when they are not actually making a shot.

Sixteen stones constitute an "end"; and after all sixteen have been played the score is determined. The target is called the "house," and each stone laying within the house, and not cancelled by an opponent's stone laying closer to the center, counts a point. A game consists of ten or twelve ends. In the case of a tie score, an extra end is played to determine the winning team.

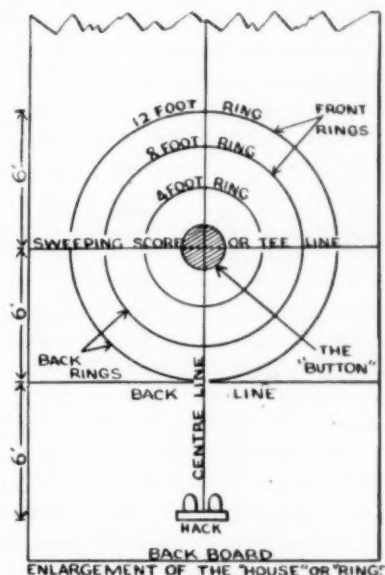
The ice is kept scrupulously clean, as level as possible, and is pebbled. This latter process is very important. The operation consists of spraying warm water on the ice surface. The spray is put on with a pebbling can held by the ice-maintenance man who walks backwards down the rink swinging the pebbling can in wide, rhythmic arcs, thus spreading the spray uniformly from side to side. The particles of spray contacting the ice form ice knobs or pebbles on which the stone rides. This enables the player to control his stone and imparts the necessary "curl" as it slides or rides on the ice.

The game of curling came to the North American continent about 1807. It was most popular in the United States, but soon caught on in Canada, where it now has a greater following. Probably the most outstanding United States curling team is the Utica New York Curling Club who have

been winning since 1882. Curling is also widely popular in the state of Minnesota, and is played by large numbers of men and women.

The most outstanding Canadian teams are: Hamilton Thistles; Torontos; Toronto Granites; Galt Curling Club; Lindsay Curling Club; Montreal Thistles; Winnipeg Granites and Carleton Curling Club of New Brunswick. Women's teams noted for their curling are: Toronto Queen City Curling Club; Strathcomas of Winnipeg; and Dauphins of Dauphin, Manitoba. Since 1888, Canadian and United States teams have been playing for the coveted Gordon International Medal. The Canadians have been more victorious with a ratio of two-and-a-half victories for each defeat.<sup>1</sup>

Lethbridgeites are enthusiastic curlers and, prior to the opening of the new Ice Centre, in 1950, curlers could be seen on natural ice sheets whenever weather permitted. Lethbridge, being situated in Southern Alberta, is subject to very sudden and extreme changes in weather during the winter months, thus natural ice could never be counted upon to be available. Since 1950, with the use of the new Ice Centre, the game has increased its following, with some eight-hundred to nine-hundred boys, girls, men and women



now playing. The game of curling is rated as the winter sport having more players than any other, with some 1,500 clubs in Canada from coast to coast.

The word given to curling tournaments is "bonspeil" and means good play or a good game.

The Shirtsleeve Bonspeil is one of the most popular events of the winter season, with players from all over Southern Alberta taking part. This is one of the largest bonspeils in western Canada and is the only one where all of the players are housed under one roof, as most large bonspeils are held in a series of rinks throughout the town or city in which they are being played.

In February 1951, the Twelfth Annual Shirtsleeve Bonspeil was the first to be held in the new Ice Centre, ninety-

MR. C. LORNE DAVIDSON, the author, is superintendent of recreation in the city of Lethbridge, Alberta, Canada.

nine rinks taking part. Since then the thirteenth and fourteenth annual 'speils have totaled 128 rinks each season. A rink is comprised of four men, thus these events have attracted 396 to 512 persons. The shirtsleeve event lasts for six days, with play usually starting at eight o'clock each morning and the last draw commencing about midnight. Each draw takes approximately two hours to play, thus activity during these six days averages about eighteen hours.

The ladies of the Lethbridge Curling Club hold an annual bonspiel, and in the first season of the Ice Centre operation held the largest of its kind in Southern Alberta, with thirty-eight rinks participating. In 1952 only thirty-five rinks entered; however, in 1953 the all-time record of forty-six rinks took part in the Sixth Annual Ladies 'Spiel.

Another enthusiastic group of curlers is the junior club of high school students. Their 'spiel is usually held during the Christmas holidays. Thus, other than the week of the official opening of the Ice Centre, when the president of the Lethbridge Curlers Club held the opening bonspiel, the youngsters participated in the first 'spiel ever held in the new winter playhouse. The first junior three-day 'spiel drew forty-one rinks from Southern Alberta. Since then they have had two more very successful 'speils. The junior event to be played during the week of December 28 this year will be the Seventh Annual Junior Event.

However, members of organized curling clubs are not the only persons interested in the game. In some centres of Southern Alberta curling is taught to the school children on

the outdoor playground rinks. For this purpose, a four-pound jam can is filled three-quarters-full of concrete. This is a good weight and is used in place of a curling stone. The lip of the can is suitable for a grip. Using this equipment and old brooms, or no brooms at all, the youngsters learn the principles of the game. It is not necessary to paint the ice for a mark to shoot at; but, as in lawn bowling, a jack or can or any other marker can be used. The youngsters form teams and play—usually on Saturday mornings. In this way interest in the game is stimulated, and by the time high school is reached the youngsters are well adapted to the basic fundamentals and usually very enthusiastic. This coming winter, five of Lethbridge's nine playgrounds will be sites of this type of activity.

Even though Lethbridge is a small city with a population of twenty-five thousand, it is not to be outdone where recreation facilities are concerned. The new Ice Center is one of the largest of its kind on the North American continent. The ice palace has 38,000 square feet of ice surface or the equivalent of sixteen curling sheets. It is a curlers' and skaters' dream, is equipped with dressing and locker rooms, lunch counter, spacious heated lobbies and a mezzanine lounge. The loud-speaker system will reach anyone in the building. Curlers and skaters are assured of perfect ice, as automatic equipment constantly keeps the ice temperature steady. Thus it is little wonder that the citizens of Lethbridge, from Junior to Grandad, are enthusiastic followers of the "Roarin' Game."

## Reading for Pleasure

Karl S. Bernhardt

It's amazing how few adolescents read books for pleasure. I haven't any reliable statistics to quote, but in interviewing adolescents I have found a large number who read books only because they are required to by their teachers, and then most of them find it a burden, not a pleasure. I can't help but think that there was something wrong with their introduction to books.

Some children develop an abiding love of books. These children are introduced to books early. Their parents usually love books, and long before the children have learned to read, they experience the joy of owning and using picture-books and of hearing stories read to them. All children like stories, and when they realize that most stories come from books, they are ready to explore the wealth of fiction that books will provide as soon as they can read for themselves.

Some parents succumb to the temptation to exhort their children to read

"good" literature and not "trash." The difficulty is that the children are enjoying what the adults label trash, and so such exhortations succeed in making the "good" literature forbidding. It seems important for the child to sample a variety of books so that he can gradually develop his own standards of taste and preference. He may concentrate on the comic book for a time, but if other types of literature are readily available he will try them too, and the chances are that he will discover much of interest and pleasure. Reading "good" books should not be a duty or a burden but a joy. Perhaps the greatest influence in this regard is an atmosphere in which books of all kinds are accepted as a pleasant part of living.

While no other reason is needed for helping the child to acquire a love of reading than the pure joy and pleasure he will receive, there are other values which might be mentioned. Books help to develop the imagination and widen

the horizons of the child beyond the seen and the heard. Books are a storehouse of knowledge and the child can learn much about the world and people from his reading. Reading can become a very healthy form of relaxation, a way of using part of his leisure time, a habit which can be continued throughout his life. Living can never become dull and commonplace for the individual who can explore new realms of human experience through the pages of books. Reading stimulates intellectual growth and provides material for thought; it provides the material for the building of ideals, ambitions, and attitudes. Reading should make schoolwork more interesting and richer in content. These are some of the many reasons why it is worth the time and effort of parents to help their children develop habits of reading for pleasure.

Excerpted from *The Bulletin* of the Institute of Child Study, University of Toronto.

A FEW INTERESTED people gathered, in the early fall of 1951, to discuss the possibility of having ski lessons for the children in hope that some day Rutland, Vermont, will be the most ski-minded community in New England. We might even produce another Andrea Mead, who is the only woman to win two gold medals in winter olympics. Anne and Joe Jones, who have won many races themselves, volunteered along with a few others to instruct each Saturday. Anne is best known for having come in second in the National Downhill at Stowe, Vermont, and for being a member of the international ski team for

husband, Dave Lawrence, another Olympic skier, who are also the present owners of Pico Peak, came to discuss how they could help with the program. They offered to instruct the advanced skiers in racing techniques, at the same time the beginners and intermediates were being instructed at the country club. Their classes would take place at Pico, which again created the transportation problem. A group of parents were organized to provide transportation each Saturday morning.

Dave and Andrea felt that we could add a little interest by showing movies and having a well-known skier, besides

this as it has saved them many dollars.

We were very fortunate this past season that the snow came immediately after the termination of the clinics, so the children were raring to go. Our first class for beginners and intermediates started on Saturday, December 11, and continued regularly until the middle of January, when the snow left us. Pico had skiing until the middle of March, so the advanced were fortunate.

The chamber of commerce has conducted, for the past three years, a winter carnival over Washington's Birthday weekend. It is the climax of our lessons. During this elaborate affair, which includes college hockey, an ice skating show under lights, a sugaring-off party, torchlight skiing, carnival ball and queen contest, our skiers compete in the respective classifications. The beginners have a very simple slalom with only a few gates, the intermediates have a more advanced course, and the advanced must compete over a very difficult course at Pico. The advanced skiers are also invited to participate in the torchlight parade which is the opening ceremony for the carnival.

We are proud of the fact that our rates are only ten cents a day for children, and fifty cents for adults, and that the tow is a self-supporting proposition. This past season, for example, we took in \$102.50 and our expenses were \$96.50. These expenses included a new rope and a general motor overhaul.

With all this skiing instruction, plus the availability of the recreation department's ski tow at the country club, there are many children who have developed into first-rate skiers. This may sound as though our interest is to develop only top-grade skiers, but it isn't. What we hope to accomplish here in Rutland is to interest as many children as possible in this activity, as it is one of the very few sports in which families may participate.

If you are located in skiing country, we suggest that you undertake a similar project, as it has proven one of our most popular activities, and has created a tremendous community interest.

## SKIING-

### *As a Community Activity*

James F. Herdic, Jr.

four years. Joe, in addition to being ski coach at Middlebury College for a number of years, was the fifth American in the National Giant Slalom last year.

Rutland, in the heart of the Green Mountains of Vermont, is situated some nine miles from Pico Peak, which until three years ago created a transportation problem for the children of the community who wished to ski. It was in the winter of 1951 that the recreation department secured permission from the Rutland Country Club to use their property for skiing.

The first season was primarily designed for beginners from the ages of four through fifteen. As the season progressed the children were divided into more advanced groups according to their ability. The instruction took place at the country club every Saturday morning from ten to twelve, under the able guidance of at least six volunteers.

With an enthusiastic beginning, it was easy to arouse interest the following fall. The advanced skiers were our major problem as they had developed to a point where they were ready for the hills of Pico. Andrea Mead and her

themselves, give a talk on skiing. It wasn't more than a few days when Dave called and said he had lined up Stein Erickson, Olympic champion from Norway, and one of the top skiers in the world, to show colored slides and give a talk on the 1952 Olympics. So it was the last week in November that the show was put on in the high school auditorium. There were over two hundred in attendance at a cost of seventy-five cents per adult and fifty cents per child.

It was here that the superintendent announced our plan to have a series of pre-season clinics to be conducted by Andrea and Dave Lawrence, and Anne and Joe Jones. These clinics were held at the recreation center and attended by over one hundred children. You may wonder why we needed these clinics, but the instructors wished to classify as many children as possible and to teach them how to care for their equipment. Ski equipment is expensive, but will last a long time if proper care is exercised. A ski boot and ski exchange was established by the recreation department whereby the children who outgrew their boots or skis could turn them in, put a price on them, and buy another used pair that would fit them. The parents were particularly happy to hear about

MR. J. HERDIC, JR., is superintendent of recreation, Rutland, Vermont.





"Sombrero Senoritas," of the high-school group, begin one of their colorful skating routines around a huge sombrero.



Dutch girls perform a difficult wheel which is precision number of the show.



Matador taunts El Torro in bullfight on ice. Entrance made to music from *Carmen*.



When local organizations alter their schedules in order to avoid conflicts with a recreation event, then it might be said that the event is highly regarded in the community. The third annual ice revue was in an early stage of preparation when the Lyons Community Center, New York, began to receive inquiries concerning the scheduled date. Upon reaching this point, we felt that the revue had definitely been established as a noteworthy annual affair.

The plans for the first show, in 1951, were made in an attempt to present a particular event that would contain all the essentials of a good recreation program. Creative recreation, participation by a large group, child-parent participation (the making of costumes), cooperation and community-wide interest were our aims.

The first one was hastily prepared, but the size of attendance marked its success. The show presented in 1952 was vastly improved, with better costumes, and with lighting and precision accentuated. Entitled "Mardi Gras On Ice," it dealt with various themes around New Orleans.

Preparation for the 1953 revue began last fall, when it was composed in its rough stages. Materials were collected from any and every source. Organizations were solicited for old sheets, lumber yards donated thin strips of wood to be used in the construction of props, construction cardboard and poster paints were given to the cause, thus leaving but a few items to be purchased.

Casting time began in November, when an announcement was made at the school for all youngsters to sign up. There was a place for every youngster in the production, regardless of ability. Armed with the list of youthful aspirants, we then set about the task of assigning youngsters to certain numbers, according to age and ability.

The ice revue of 1953 was composed of three main themes, Indian, Dutch, and Mexican. The tiny tots were assigned to the Indian number, the twelve- to fourteen-year-olds to the Dutch, and the high school group took part in the Mexican fantasy.

To give the performance a professional aspect, we kept the rink darkened before the opening number and between the acts. This facilitated the moving of props, and added an extra touch when the lights came on, revealing a colorful panorama of props and skaters. Panel entrances, construct-

MR. TINDALL is director of recreation, Lyons, New York.



# An ICE Revue



Medicine Man in the Indian scene.

ed of colored cardboard nailed over a wood frame, offered the only illumination between acts. Indirect lighting was achieved by placing strings of Christmas tree lights behind a cardboard shield.

When all lights were turned on for the opening numbers, viewers gazed at an Indian village, complete with wigwams, totem poles, tom toms and, of course, Indians. The "dancing totem poles" were made from large sheets of cardboard, enabling a youngster inside the pole to move it about freely. One of our top young figure skaters appeared, and after making several graceful turns, retired to the side as Santa Claus made his appearance. Santa pushed a huge giftbox, mounted on a wooden sled. After much ado, he opened the box, and the twin Indian dolls within came to life. After skating with Santa, they led the tribe to a corner of the rink to await the entrance of the chief, who climaxed his rapid leaps and turns by leaping through a ceremonial mask. (Mask was twelve feet high, made of cardboard.) After all Indians had taken their original positions, the rink was darkened and the prop men hastened to make the necessary changes for the Dutch village. A windmill and a well were the main props here. The scene opened to find sixteen Dutch girls assembled at various points in the village. One skater was decked out with the traditional yoke and water buckets. At a certain cue they assembled in the center of the rink and performed a Dutch folk dance on skates. (A modified folk dance, of course, with some precision skating marking the close of the number.)

A huge sombrero (brim diameter twelve feet) was the focal point for the first part of the Mexican scene. "The Sombrero Senoritas," attired in red and white costumes performed various formations around the hat before being joined by a figure-skating couple doing the "Blue Tango." The señoritas formed a background of colorful movement for the featured pair as they performed their flawless routine. When the couple made their exit, the girls picked up the sombrero and found a pint-sized Gaucho under it. The clowning and chasing supplied the comedy for the evening. With appropriate recorded music from *Carmen*, the matador made her entrance. A bull stormed out and made several menacing lunges at the pretty matador. After some comedy, and some fine skating by the matador, they mended their differences, and saluted the crowd as the lights were maneuvered to form a brilliant spectrum on the colored ice. (Ice was colored with poster paint.)

The day after the show, the community center received many offers of help for next year's production. One official of a box factory has offered as much cardboard material as will be needed for the next ice spectacle. The scope of the affair has grown to such an extent that we are now beginning the collection of materials and the construction of props. Lighting, props, and costumes are far more important than the ability of the skaters. To those who might be interested in starting an ice show, the following outline is submitted:

## Assembling Cast and Advisory Staff

Both written and verbal notices will round up a large number of youngsters—far more than you think you can use, but try to find a place for every one of them. The larger the cast, the better the potential for a large number of interested adults.

Once the cast has been assembled, assign numbers according to age and ability. Your outstanding skaters can be worked into any group, however. You can now divide your show into various themes, or else have one main theme for the entire revue, and build the numbers around it.

Unsteady tots, attired in animal costumes or the like, will always be wonderful entertainment, so don't worry about a spill or two during the performance.

Girls in their early teens show a marked preference for precision numbers, thus military numbers are good. Solid colors in percale are good sources for costume material. Military hats may be made from construction cardboard, covered with metallic paper in the right color. Metallic paper is available at art school or supply houses. Plumes can be made from tufted crepe paper. Our Dutch costumes were fashioned from the military costumes used the previous year. Sleeves were removed, thus making vests, and the caps were made from old sheets, heavily starched.

The glamour spots are the proper place for the high school girls. A square dance, a series of simple skating routines, or even set-positions around colorful props will delight both spectator and participant. It is impossible to over-stress the "big three"—costumes, lighting, and props. The shortcomings in ability are helped immeasurably by a glittering scene.

At this point, I definitely want to encourage recreation leaders in the small communities. Don't let the scope of this event scare you. We too are faced with a very small budget,

and we actually don't have any money to spend on our annual revue. Each youngster must pay for the material for his or her costume. Prop materials, cardboard, strips of wood, paint, and so on, can be obtained from merchants, factories and the like.

### About the Rink

We operate and maintain our own ice rink, which is adjacent to the community center. This makes it handy in regard to our lighting effects and sound system. However, any outdoor rink can easily be set up with sound and lights. Your local fire department may have an emergency sound truck. All you have to do is furnish the records.

Some municipal recreation groups in large cities have access to indoor rinks, where artificial ice offers skating throughout the winter season regardless of the temperature outside. Having to depend on the weather is not the best advantage, but our rehearsals are held indoors when warm weather prevents skating. The indoor practice is a great help in teaching the youngsters their numbers. As a result, when they return to the rink, they have full knowledge of what they are supposed to do; from then on, it's a question of timing. In one way, having to overcome the drawbacks of an outdoor rink is a help. People expect perfection when watching a revue on an indoor rink, for there's nothing to impair the performance. Your local populace will be highly appreciative of your efforts when you present some entertainment that has had to overcome, among other things, the weather.

### About the Lights

You must have good lighting in order to insure any measure of success for your production, so canvass all possible owners of floodlights, footlights, window display lights, and

anything else that will help light your rink. If possible, try to have two or three switches that can vary the amount of light. This will give you those added effects. Light-masks, made with colored cellophane, can add some beautiful tones to the ice. (Paste or staple cellophane on one end of a hollow tube of cardboard. Slip other end over brim of light, taking care not to get the paper too close to the lights.

Try to have equal lighting around the rink, and avoid dark spots. One big spotlight for solo skating can probably be obtained from your local high school.

### Acrobatic Stunts

Extreme care should be used here. Acrobatic stunts on ice skates are always thrilling, and can be worked in nicely with many themes, (for example, our Indian Chief last year leaped through a ceremonial mask) but they can be dangerous. Thus, anyone planning to perform any stunts should be an excellent skater.

### Publicity

You will probably want to rely on placing posters in the store windows, so why not ask the art class at school to make them up for you? Try to have some photos available for the pre-revue ballyhoo. A photo of one of the local youngsters in a dazzling costume always adds to the write-up. Radio and TV, of course, can be used, so don't hesitate to send announcements to all surrounding stations. On the night of the show, have the sound truck go around town, an hour or so before the revue, reminding the citizenry of the event.

Recreation people are constantly searching for projects that will offer community cooperation, community participation and wide appeal. This revue is our number-one effort, and will continue to be so, until we find something else that will be talked about the year around.

## Ice Broom-Ball Rules

The game is played on the hockey rink, using the hockey goals to score in, or an end line parallel to the goals.

Each player is equipped with a broom (an old broom is best). A volleyball, basketball, or soccer ball may be used.

No limit on the number of players on each side, but eight make the best contest.

The game may be played on skates or without skates. (For bigger boys or girls who are good skaters, it is a better game on skates.)

If the regular hockey goal is used, only one goal is necessary. If an end line is used, half of the players are guards and half are forwards.

### The Game:

The ball is placed in center of the ice between two players, the same as in hockey. Then all players try to drive the ball to the opponent's goal.

Each game is divided into three periods of ten minutes each.

If the end line goal is used, the guards at no time cross the center of the ice, but may come up to the center, but when the ball is in their half of the territory, they draw back to their own goal line. No player shall cross the opponent's goal line at any time. If this does happen, the opponents shall be awarded one point.

If hockey goals are used, the one guard is stationed at the goal, same as in hockey. All other players may use

all of the rink, and players may skate around their opponent's goal as in hockey.

### Scoring:

Each goal shall count one point; and if the end line is crossed by an opponent in an end-line goal-play, it shall count one point.

There are no off-sides in the game; but on any bunched-up play, the referee stops the game and the ball is centered—with all players being at least ten feet away from the centering players.

Any rough playing may be penalized by taking the guilty players out of the game for the period.

From the *St. Paul Public Recreation Guide and Program, Fall-Winter 1953-54.*

*A Unique Clinic is the Answer to Many Requests*



Centerpieces hold attention of four-year-old. Many children, attending with parents, watch.

It's NOVEMBER. Let's visit the Christmas Institute in Minneapolis where the park board's recreation division is staging its fifth annual workshop in advance of next month's holiday season.

Group leaders are here from all over Minnesota; scoutmasters, recreation leaders, school teachers and many more. There are even a few from Canada. Some have brought their groups with them. All hope to take home some new ideas for Christmas decorating.

This year's clinic is so big and so popular that officials have scheduled it for five days. Last year's three-day affair drew 1,352 persons. That was the biggest institute to date but this year's clinic looks like another record breaker.

## *A Christmas Institute*

Eivind Hoff, Jr.

We're in the Citizens Aid Building; and long work tables bank the walls of the main hall. On them are piled materials of all kinds. Behind them stand instructors ready to transform the heaps of tinfoil, paper and sticks into attractive Christmas decorations.

Each table features a different type of ornamentation. As we stroll by, we see Christmas candles being decorated, and tree ornaments in various stages of production.

Our hostess is Mrs. Alice Dietz, assistant director of recreation in Minneapolis, originator of the Christmas Institute in this city.

"The chief value of these clinics lies in educating new leaders and demonstrating new craft materials and new techniques," she says. "We believe this method the most practical way to teach."

Mrs. Dietz's project grew out of a flood of requests directed to the park board in recent years to "send an instructor out to show us some Christmas craft work." When the calls for help reached major proportions in 1949, the decision was made to establish a clinic where everyone who wanted assistance could obtain it simultaneously. It was believed a mass get-together would be the best means of dispensing the desired information.

Only a registration booth barred our path as we entered the Institute. There is no cost to any visitor; nothing is for sale here. It's strictly a place to learn. Expenses for the affair are borne three ways: the Minneapolis Park Board

furnishes the instructors to demonstrate and advise; Franklin Cooperative Creamery, long a booster of service activities in the city, buys all the materials; and the city's Volunteer Service Bureau of the Community Fund takes care of invitations and registration, helping to build continued attendance.

Mrs. Dietz explains the history of the Institute as we approach a long table behind which an instructor is tying a dazzling bow on a gift-wrapped package. Soon a visitor is invited to try it herself. She duplicates the instructor's work delightedly, tries it once more, and then makes a note of the type of material.

"That's a typical reaction," says our hostess. "There were only eighty-seven people at our first institute in 1949. We held it in this room. By 1952 attendance had reached almost 1,400 and we expect even larger crowds at this year's event.

"Last year's crowd was so big we had to use this large auditorium and two rooms besides." She pointed to the adjoining cafeteria, "In fact, the fire department said the place was too full and forced us to open this cafeteria so the crowd could spill over into here."

About ten instructors are on hand at a given time to receive visitors. All are park board personnel except two special handcraft teachers from a Minneapolis craft shop, who volunteer to assist since materials to make the favors are being shown for sale at their shop.

Around the room we pass tables covered with finished outside-the-door decorations, Christmas tree ornaments, place mats, centerpieces, textile paintings, food decorations, novelty gifts, costumes in construction, and we hear ex-

MR. HOFF is a member of the Public Relations Staff, Board of Park Commissioners, Minneapolis, Minnesota.

planations of new Christmas games.

On our right an eight-year-old stares unbelieving as an instructor carves an apple into a Santa Claus. This type of favor has proved a favorite embellishment for party table or mantle piece.

But the candle decorating table seems to be humming the most. Off the "production line" come white candles sporting green holly leaves, red berries and other gay ornaments. More candle ideas on display are: sequin designs pinned on a plump candle; foil fringes wrapped spirally around a tall taper; and tulle and sequin-tiered petticoats pinned to a candle.

Officials estimate that some fifty per cent of the visitors try their hand at making things right at the Institute. Mrs. Dietz emphasises the fact that the event is not an exhibit, but is a workshop where people may learn by doing.

Another interesting table at this November session is attracting visitors—making "Santa" favors from such common items as gumdrops, life savers, pipe cleaners, popcorn, wood, and glass. On the next table are piles of metal foil which are destined to become bird and butterfly figurines. Next we see four-foot-high Santas and Christmas trees sawed from workable sheets of the hardened chemical called styrofoam.

Fresh ideas for the Institute come from the park instructors who are constantly on the alert for new material. Magazines, newspapers, library books, and other printed materials are thoroughly searched, and friends who "know a special trick" often pass on valuable tips.

Shirley Hartfiel, a regular park board community center supervisor, describes the Institute as "work, but it's fun." Instructors, however, receive no pay for their extra effort.

Minnesota's blustery November weather doesn't seem to bother visitors, either. Veteran instructor Mary McKnight recalls the 1951 clinic which began in a snowstorm and yet was packed with visitors minutes after the doors opened. Keeping the scene of the Institute near the Minneapolis loop district and good transportation helps, too.

We're passing the stage now, where a half-dozen Christmas trees are gaily displayed in varying themes. Some are strung with fancy electronic devices, another has homemade decorations, and a third is hung with all-nations doll ornaments. Three dozen Christmas cookies and strings of popcorn cover another.

From time to time general announcements ring out over the public address system as our hostess directs visitors to a certain table for a mass demonstration. "It's impossible to demonstrate to everyone individually how to make these metallic foil birds," says Mrs. Dietz.

The Institute depends on the Twin City newspapers to carry its advance stories to state-wide readers, and television demonstrations previous to opening day are a "natural" for this kind of event. Officials have learned from long experience that you must advertise your project if it's to be a successful one. This must be done in addition to the mailing lists maintained by the Volunteer Service Bureau.

The Bureau adds each visitor's name to its list and sends notification to that person calling attention to the time and

place of the next Institute. Visitors to other park-sponsored clinics, such as Halloween and Naturecraft, are also invited, keeping the mailing list long and assuring large attendance.

Franklin Creamery foots a bill approximating five hundred dollars for materials used at the Institute each year. However, Franklin is happy to help the park board with this and many other projects since the company long ago adopted a policy of turning its extra profits into a recreation sponsorship campaign for both youngsters and adults in the city.

Occasionally professional help is provided for the Institute by volunteer instructors from the University of Minnesota and the Minneapolis Art Institute.

Sessions run two-a-day (morning and evening). Some are for group leaders only, but most are thrown open to the general public. Also, one Saturday morning session is always arranged for old folks. Instructors report seeing many familiar faces at the Institute each year.

Gift ideas for people of all ages is a popular department. Gifts for fathers, however, seem to present the knottiest problem, so those in charge at the gift table make it a point to be especially helpful with hints for dad's present. Instructors find, too, that people like to learn about tree decorations which children will be able to make themselves.

We're back near the entrance, now. In fifty-eight minutes we've circled the hall. We've glanced into the special candy cup demonstration room, and looked at special Christmas patterns in another adjoining room.

Our hostess hurries over to say goodbye with a free Christmas craft book full of games, ideas for decorations, and Christmas card suggestions. Each visitor receives one. Further information is available at the Minneapolis Public Library, which lists reference books for visitors.

Like the average visitor, we hurried home, anxious to "try that paper Santa Claus ourselves."

## Greeting Cards

Three years ago the UNICEF Greeting Card Fund came into being; proceeds from the sale of the greeting cards go towards UNICEF's efforts to help all the world's children. The 1953 designs were contributed by the brilliant English team of Jan Lewitt and George Him, and they show children at play in five UNICEF-assisted countries or areas around the world. Kite flying in Peru, climbing the greased pole in the Philippines, blind man's buff in Greece, hide-and-seek in the Middle East and hop-scotch in Pakistan are shown in dramatic colors.

A box of ten cards—two each of the five designs—either with *Season's Greetings* in the five official languages of the United Nations or blank for use as note cards, sells for \$1.00 postpaid. Write to UNICEF Greeting Card Fund, United Nations, New York.



# THE ART OF SNOW SCULPTURE

Snow sculpture has become increasingly popular through the years, and much can still be learned from the early experiences of its pioneers at Dartmouth College.

IT IS HARD to guess when the invention of the primitive snowman took place, but it is safe to say that after its invention there was but little improvement until a revolutionary innovation at Dartmouth College brought the art of snow sculpture to greater perfection.

I refer to the ingenuity of some ambitious undergraduate who became tired of waiting for Mother Nature to produce the right temperature for making sticky snow, and went out with a garden hose to make some for himself. Simple as it was, this "invention" became the basis for what was soon to become an organized art, because this method allows the artist to manufacture material, much like plaster or clay, which goes by the name of slush. When you have access to slush, you are presented with a medium that will easily adapt itself to any subject that you wish to build, because it can be handled like clay and allows the snow artist to use an armature, or framework, such as sculptors use in their clay modeling.

The art no doubt flourished unrecognized for several years before the college took formal notice of it in 1927. In that year the Inter-fraternity Council offered a cup for the best work done for the carnival. In 1928, all the fraternities were requested to submit entries. In 1929, the Outing Club decided to make the statues a regular carnival feature.

That year also saw revolutionary development in figure work, for the fraternities decided that it was more fun to make people and animals out of snow than it was to spend

Condensed from chapter eighteen, "The Art of Snow Sculpture," by Dick Brooks, from *The Dartmouth Book of Winter Sports*. Copyright 1939 by A. S. Barnes and Company, Incorporated.



Eleazar, a colossal snow-sculpture masterpiece at Dartmouth.

a week building a Grecian doorway. Along with the growth in technical skill there came stronger competition, leading quite naturally to closely-guarded secrets as to the best way to build and preserve delicate works in snow and ice.

One of the earliest of these secrets was the idea of spraying the statue while in process of construction so that the finished work would be smoother and more solid. This was followed by the plan of spraying the finished statue to give it a glossy patina and to keep it from melting too easily. Student sculptors soon learned that after a statue made of slush was sprayed on a cold night it took on the appearance of having been carved directly out of solid ice. Another secret was a process of dyeing ice cakes for use as a colorful background or for the base of a panel in relief. By applying slush directly to the colored ice, interesting silhouette reliefs could be made which gave a unique cameo effect when lighted from the back.

Many people have inquired just how snow is made to behave—how it is made to stick. Wet snow clings to wet snow just as clay sticks to clay. When the slush is applied to the statue it quickly freezes hard; providing, of course, the

temperature is low enough to ensure this freezing. The trick is in moulding the wet snow before it has a chance to harden. Snow is as soft and pliable as clay at this stage; and, moreover, after it has frozen, it can easily be chipped, carved, and smoothed.

#### METHODS OF BUILDING

The most common and easiest method of building is the wet snow idea. It is by far the simplest to use because it allows the artist to construct a solid prefabricated armature.

Some have had success using the method of piling up a lot of snow, wetting it, then letting it freeze until it becomes a solid block of snowy ice, which they then attack vigorously with an ax. The evident defect of this system is that there cannot be any armature for the support of the figure, and so the statue must be planned to support its own weight. Snow, especially after it has soaked up a lot of water, weighs almost as much as water itself—a cubic foot of slushy snow would weigh pretty close to sixty-two pounds. It can easily be seen that the weight-distribution of a statue has a lot to do with its success or downfall. That is why I am so strong for the plan of applying slush to a sturdy armature to assure good weight-distribution.

Good work has also been done on a small scale carving from cakes of solid ice, but this art requires considerable skill and patience on the part of the cutter, because one slip can ruin the work. Pure ice will split and crack very easily and without warning, whereas frozen slush seems to take on a very close grain which simplifies the subsequent carving.

Snow relief against a background of ice has already been mentioned. But what should be tried more often is the cutting of high or low relief directly from the snow block. With careful workmanship and proper lighting, unique and interesting panels can be made on which the artist can express himself with greater freedom than in full round figures.

#### CONSTRUCTING THE STATUE

In order to illustrate some of the difficulties of snow sculpture, let me offer the story of the colossal "Eleazar Wheelock" that was erected on the Dartmouth campus for the Carnival of 1939.

It all began with the thought that we build a large, in fact the largest, snow statue ever sculptured at Dartmouth and perhaps in the world—a simple but memorable figure in the center of the campus. Eleazar, the founder of the college, seemed to be the most impressive single symbol of what we might call the Dartmouth "spirit," so we decided to glorify him. My notebook was cluttered with drawings of the figure from all angles. Gradually these rough sketches narrowed down to one particular pose. Then this sketch was drawn carefully to scale according to the size that we planned for the actual statue.

The next step was to fit an imaginary armature into the drawing. As shown in *Figure 1*, this armature was to consist of two four-inch pipes which would form the immovable triangle necessary to keep the figure from falling to either side. Then the boxes which were to make his rotund mid-section hollow were fitted into the drawing, together with

the extra pipe for his left arm. Without those boxes at the point where the figure would be heaviest, the statue would have been in danger of teetering either to the front or back. Therefore, we kept the center of gravity as low as possible for the sake of safety.

The boxes were planned on paper to give as much weight to the front as the back, the final exact balance to be watched for when we built the statue. The lattice work of the shoulders and head, and the extended arm, were then drawn in, together with a sketch of the flour barrel we would use as a base for the tankard which he was to hold aloft in a salute to the visitors. The completed armature on the drawing looked like *Figure 2*.

#### APPLYING THE SNOW

Once the scale plan for this elaborate construction was drawn out, it was followed very carefully on an actual small-

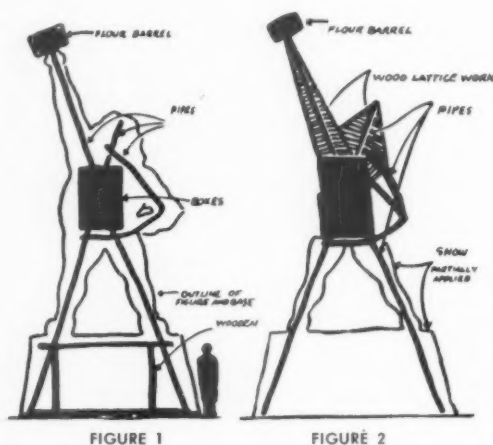


FIGURE 1

FIGURE 2

size armature for the clay model. The clay was applied to the model frame just as the snow would be to the full-sized armature when the time came, and the figure was developed in its entirety to be sure that the armature was the right size and exact shape to support the finished twenty-ton statue. Proportional measurements were taken from this clay model and recorded on paper for use during the construction.

Let me again point up the importance of building an accurate scale model. When you work in snow, you must work fast and cannot afford to make mistakes. By constructing this scale model out of clay, you can be sure that your armature will be suited to the statue that you plan to build, and you can get a fairly accurate idea of what your statue will look like. No matter how many good drawings you make of your statue, you cannot be sure how it will come out unless you can see it in three dimensions. The model will reveal the points where you will have the most difficulty when you get outside. My clay model of Eleazar was absolutely necessary because I could point out to those working with me just what they were doing and what the result was to be like. If your helpers are given a clear idea of what they are doing, there will be less time wasted by unnecessary mistakes.

In building this scale model you first make a suitable base and then fabricate the armature from wire and wood, and attach it to the base. Your drawing will have indicated the scope of the armature necessary, but in its actual three dimensional construction you can visualize more accurately the requirements for the adequate support of every detail of the full scale statue. No rule can be laid down except to make sure that no part of the statue shall be left to chance for its support and balance. Once properly designed and fabricated, you can clothe this skeleton with modeling clay and be ready to go.

The snow came the night before we planned to raise the scaffolding and start work on the figure. We had previously erected the basic pipe armature and had frozen it solidly into a foundation of ice sixteen feet in diameter. The pipes of the structure were joined together with U bolts, which make a fine joint when two pipes cross. Our wood members were held to the pipes by rope lashings, which became immovable when cemented with snow and ice. A regular carpenter's scaffold was constructed sixteen feet square and thirty-two feet high with plenty of cross braces and a large beam out over the top for hauling up snow. A rope was run from the front bumper of a car through a pulley at the bottom of the scaffold, up through another at the top, and down to a large washtub at the base of the statue. When the car backed away from the statue, up went a bucket of slush.

#### CARVING THE STATUE

We applied this first slush to the legs until they were built up heavily to where the bottom of the torso boxes would come. Then we set the boxes in place, together with all the rest of the armature, and were ready to work. Doing everything on a large scale, we used a three-inch fire hose instead of the conventional garden hose for our water supply. With this and plenty of shovels we kept a steady stream of wet snow going up in the bucket to the men on the scaffold.

In four days we had completed most of the work of applying the snow and had a tremendous block of ice that showed the general outlines of our figure. The hardest work was yet to come, for now this great hollow snowman, thirty-eight feet high, must be carved into something that would resemble Eleazar Wheelock.

We used small hatchets to do most of the cutting and iron barrel staves as scrapers. On the whole, however, we left the statue with the original ax cuts on it because of the effect given by the many small light-catching planes that resulted from the ax work. Also, the rough texture left by these cuts made the statue appear to have been hewn out of a block of solid natural ice.

I strongly recommend this plan to anyone, whether he is going to work on a large or small scale, because once he starts to smooth the whole thing down, unless he does an expert job his work will lose all its vigor and strength.

#### THE FINISHING TOUCHES

When we were through with this tedious but essential task of finishing up, we sprayed the whole statue with a light

stream so that the very final touches could be given to the smooth finish. These being successfully completed, we took down the scaffold and with pardonable lumps in our throats chorused a lusty "Eleazar Wheelock" as the flood-lights illuminated our "masterpiece." What greater thrill could anyone desire than to be able to step back from the white and glistening completed statue and be able to say that he had made or helped to make such a beautiful piece of work?

Ten small spotlights placed around the statue gave this ice a remarkable alabaster-like sparkle and added a great deal to its appearance.

The natural white brightness of snowy ice is very easily lighted; but care must be taken, if you are to secure the right effect, in exaggerating the various bumps and hollows of your work. The face of Eleazar appeared even more grotesque than we had molded it because the lights that shone on it were placed quite close to the base of the statue so the light directed up to his face gave the same effect that is secured when you hold a flashlight directly beneath your chin.

We have never regarded lighting as a serious problem. If the statue is well made it will look well no matter how it is lighted. In general, however, the strength of the lights should depend on the size of the statue and the placing of the lights should depend on the shape as well as the size of the figure.

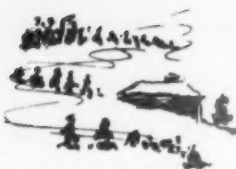
But I definitely oppose the use of color either in the lights or the statues themselves. Snow is snow and it seems to lose much of its natural beauty when lighted artificially or stained with color.

Perhaps I can answer a few questions that might be asked about why our statue was such a success. We were very careful to keep the figure simple in every way and to concentrate on the powerful effect of our line and the solidarity of the mass rather than on the nice details that so often draw all the attention of the workers. We placed a great amount of emphasis on the silhouette effect of the boundary lines of the figure when viewed from the front, making sure that these lines gave the correct life and expression to the statue. It is very difficult to keep away from the "snowman" effect with the conventional telephone pole legs and no action at all to the figure.

We were fortunate in having a natural dark background in the broad expanse of the campus. I would suggest that when no dark background is available the artist make one, because when there are even a few lights behind the work they will obliterate all the fine silhouette effect from the eyes of the audience. Few more suggestions could be made. The rest must be left to the imagination and ability of the artist.

"The bad features of snow as a material for sculpturing are that it isn't always available when you want it, and that often when it is, the weather isn't cold enough to freeze the modelled slush. The skier's prayer to Saint Peter should be extended for the benefit of the growing fraternity of snow modellers."—Dick Brooks.





# Starting a Winter Sports Program

Jack Murray

**W**ITHIN the past ten years, the interest in winter sports has increased so rapidly, that today most northern communities have some program of this nature in operation. If your community lies in the snow region, and your terrain is hilly, the people in your area can enjoy a season of skiing and tobogganing. The following are some suggestions that may help you set up your own program:

1. Find a slope that faces the north and has some trees (for shade and protection from the wind, which could blow much of the snow from the hill). This should start gradually at the bottom, and increase in pitch so that the steep part of the hill is at the top. This will enable the beginner to practice on the lower part of the hill.
2. After you pick your hill, find the owner and obtain his permission to use it; or better yet, get him to sign a lease for as long as you think you will want to use the area.
3. Organize a work project with help from the Boy Scouts and local organizations. Tell them to bring their axes, saws, hatchets, rakes and shovels, with which you can cut brush and small trees (providing you have the owner's consent), pick stones, fill holes and rake the entire area smooth, so that when the first snow arrives, you are in business. To create more interest in the project, you might provide a hot lunch, as we did with much success, having 140 children turn out. We also provided transportation and had the local newspaper take pictures.
4. Each year, plan on planting some type of grain on the slope to prevent erosion and save work in the long run.
5. The next thing to consider is a ski tow. I would hesitate to begin a program of this type without including one.

It is possible to buy portable ski tows today which come complete with rope, necessary gear and safety devices. They range in price from \$300 to \$600. For power, you may buy them with five- to ten-horsepower motors. These can be set up on a slope within one-half-hour and be ready to operate. We purchased ours with donations from different organizations that were interested in the project. During December, movies were shown of ski areas throughout the country, and membership in the local ski club was the price of admission. This brought more money into our fund. These movies, in color, are available to schools, recreation departments and ski clubs at very little cost, often for postage only.

6. After the hill is completed, with tow, and you receive your first snowfall, it is necessary to pack the entire slope

with the help of your skiers. Have them ride up on the tow, and after reaching the top, tramp down by placing their skis parallel to the slope. This will pack the snow and make it easier to slalom (transverse the slope from side to side) and it holds the snow on the hill for a longer time.

7. If you want to light your hill for night skiing, which is being done at most hills now, you can borrow two or three lights from your local athletic fields, as we have done here. The cost is low for both the installing and the power.

To help your program to be a success, organize a junior ski club for the boys and girls in your area. Furnish, if possible, transportation to and from the hill, give them ski instructions, free use of the tow, and organize a ski patrol for safety.

In return, they can pack the slope after each snowfall, fill in the holes where someone has fallen and neglected to fill up the hole, keep skiers in line on the tow, pack snow on bare spots, and help you with many other things that will assure a successful program. The juniors appreciate the responsibility and will cooperate far better than older groups.

Your toboggan slide can be constructed easily enough by digging a trench straight down your hill, a few inches wider than your toboggan. Try and keep it as smooth as possible. It should be deep enough to assure you that the toboggans will not jump out of the slide. When digging this, allow enough room for the snow, which, when packed, will take up three or four inches.

We built our slide by having a bull-dozer dig a trench two feet deep. The dirt that piled up on each side was sufficient to keep the toboggans inside the trench throughout the winter's use. Keep your slide straight if possible.

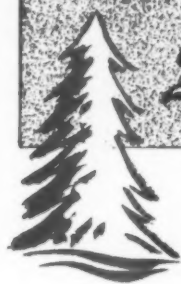
In the fall of 1952, Reedsburg, Wisconsin, had a skating rink. This was the extent of its winter sports program. By December of the same year, it had the following: 800-foot slalom ski slope; 600-foot rope ski tow; ski trails for amateur and expert; portable shelter house; portable refreshment stand; toboggan slide, 400 feet long; seven eight-foot toboggans with pads.

This year's facilities will be: 1200-foot slalom ski slope; 1000-foot rope ski tow; more ski trails; permanent ski lodge with fire place and lunch counter; toboggan tow on toboggan slide; fifteen toboggans on hand.

It took plenty of work to obtain these things, but last year, when there were between seventy-five and one hundred cars at our hill—with people from six to sixty skiing and tobogganing—we thought it was well worth the effort.

MR. MURRAY is recreation director, Reedsburg, Wisconsin.





# Special Christmas Projects

American Airbase in England

## Parcels for the Aging

THE APPROACH of the Christmas season brings the feeling of good will to all men throughout the world. In keeping with this thought, the personnel of the Air Force at the Lakenheath Base were desirous of spreading a bit of Christmas joy and happiness into the homes of some people living in nearby communities. Their plan was to send Christmas parcels to needy old-aged persons who were living near the Lakenheath Base. They desired that these parcels reach the homes of those most deserving and who would accept their act in the kind spirit in which it was intended. The parcels were delivered to the household of the selected person or persons a few days before Christmas.

They called upon the officials of the Womans Volunteer Service and the Womans Institute, in approximately ninety communities throughout the area, by letter, with the result that their "Project for Old People" was well-launched.

The preliminary planning was started in October 1952, several meetings being held with members of the above organizations and the British Legion. These organizations immediately pledged their cooperation and the Womans Volunteer Service led the way in the resulting action. They provided names of the most deserving old people; and all merchandise for the project was purchased through the English market.

Each parcel contained: tins of cherries, prunes, plums, steak and vegetables, chicken soup, jars of fruit salad, marmalade, strawberry jam, pickles, mince-meat, malted milk, boxes of dates, figs, jellies, sixteen-ounce tin of ham, twelve-ounce pork luncheon meat, two-

pound Christmas pudding, half-pound of tea, one pound of biscuits, a bottle of ginger wine, fresh oranges, apples and walnuts.

Five hundred gift-hampers were prepared and delivered, with the following enclosed card:

3909th Air Base Group

R.A.F. Station Lakenheath  
Suffolk

To You This Christmas,

The hearts of men throughout the free world turn to spreading good cheer at Christmas. In keeping with this thought, the members of the American Air Force at R.A.F. Station Lakenheath wish you to accept this remembrance in the spirit of good will toward men.

It has been an American custom, a part of our English heritage, to express

good will at Christmas by such a gesture as this. We wish you to be one to whom we express gratitude for your years of devotion to a free country.

May the blessings of Christmas and the New Year be yours during the coming year.

Sincerely,

Gerald G. Robinson

Colonel, U.S.A.F.  
Christmas, 1952      Commanding

British newspapers were enthusiastic and gave high praise for American generosity in their write-ups:

American airmen at Lakenheath have contributed so generously to their fund to provide Christmas food parcels for

Parcels for needy British oldsters being prepared by the servicemen at Lakenheath.



old people . . . that today, on the eve of delivery, the grand total stands at £1,075.

Gestures of this kind are not confined to American bases overseas. At airfields in the United States, it is almost traditional for the men to take good cheer, at Christmas, to children and old people living in the area.—*Cambridge Daily News*.

Bewildered, Mrs. S. Frost led the four young American servicemen, with the decorated box, into her small living room.

"This," said Sgt. H. J. Quigley, of the U.S. Air Police, "is a gift from the servicemen at Lakenheath air base. And we wish you a very happy Christmas!"

Mrs. Frost, eighty-two-years-old and white-haired, looked at the box lying on her table. She saw the oranges, nuts, the bottle of ginger wine, the ham and preserves, bottled fruit salads, the large Christmas pudding and other gifts.

"Is it all for me?" she whispered.

"All of it, ma'am," they told her.

She began to wipe her eyes with her handkerchief. It was as much as she could do to overcome her emotion and murmur, "A very happy Christmas to you—a very happy Christmas."

This was only one of many similar episodes on Monday and yesterday. The story of how it began is one which illustrates typically the generosity of American servicemen and their efforts to share the good things of life at this season.

It is a custom with the American services to reflect their own Christmas happi-

ness upon those who live near their bases.

—*Bury Free Press*.

The response to the Christmas parcel project was most gratifying and included scores of letters from the recipients themselves, sometimes hardly legible, but written painstakingly by anxious hands, and always moving pieces of correspondence. A few typical excerpts follow:

"Words cannot express my thanks to you and the airmen under your command for the lovely Xmas parcel which you have so generously given to me. I am a sick old-aged pensioner, so you will know how I appreciate it. I only wish that all my countrymen had spent a few years of their life in the U.S. as I have done and then they would appreciate what fine fellows that you are."

\* \* \*

"I would just like to thank you for this lovely box of all good things. I was so done up I had to cry for joy. I am nearly seventy-eight and never did I have anything given me before; I don't know how to thank you enough. Sir, I do pray you may live many years and enjoy good health and happiness."

\* \* \*

"My husband and I are both over eighty-five and unable to get out at all. We have never had anything like it before and it caused great excitement in our home. We wish you all a very Happy Xmas and may God bless you and keep you safe in this world of trouble."

\* \* \*

"Will you kindly express our most grateful thanks to the airmen of the RAF Station at Lakenheath for the wonderful parcels of this morning. It is the best one we have ever had in the course of a long married life—sixty-one-and-a-half-years.

"We are eighty-seven- and eighty-five-years-old now. My husband has to use two sticks and my sight is very dim. May I wish you, Sir, the compliments of the season and very sincere thanks to those kind young men. With happy landings."

\* \* \*

"I am writing to thank you for the lovely parcel you sent me and my wife. I will accept it in remembrance in the spirit of good will toward men and especially the men of the USAF who have done so much to help this country through."



## Christmas Gifts From Cotton Bags —or other inexpensive cotton fabrics



Santa Claus is coming to town soon, and most of us still have much to do to get ready for that red letter day.

Why not help Santa out this year with a bag of attractive gifts that can be made easily and economically? Excellent things can be made from cotton feed, flour, and fertilizer bags.

Dolls and stuffed animals made from the colorful print bag fabric are certain to delight young hopefuls come Christmas, and are exceptionally easy on the budget. New prints are appropriate for making a wide variety of items from baby bibs to party frocks, while the fine white cambric of plain cotton sacks can be used for embroidered dish towels, pillow cases, place mats, and luncheon sets. (Or of course, these same things can be made of any gay cotton fabric.)

The one-hundred-pound cotton feed or fertilizer bag provides about one-and-a-third yards of material, enough for dozens of gift ideas. Clever items can also be made from twenty-five-pound flour bags, available in print patterns in many city grocery stores. Ripped, this size bag measures about 26 by 26 inches.

Preparing the bags for sewing is a simple process. The chain-stitched seam rips out in a jiffy when the thread is clipped in the corner. Band labels, or trade names printed in washout inks, come off easily when the bag is soaked in water.

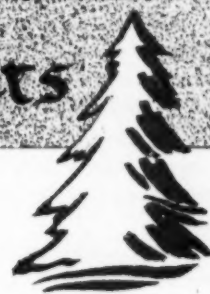
Attractive Christmas stockings and coolie hats are but two of the many possible projects that can be completed quickly by hand or machine.

**Child's Coolie Hat**—Cut two circles of

cloth, 14 inches in diameter. Make two-inch dart at edge and taper to center to make hat pointed. Cut one 14-inch circle from cardboard. Clip from edge to center, and lap to make point. Fit circles together over cardboard, stretching and pinning at edge to remove slack cloth. Bind edge with bias tape. Tack bow made from tape at point on top. Fold 60-inch strip of bias tape together, stitch, and tack center at inside of point for tie.

**Christmas Stockings**—Use hose for pattern. Lay on printed or plain cotton bag material, double thickness. Allowing extra room for toys, cut to any desired length. Sew around, leaving top open, and turn. Cut plain colored cuff to fit top of stocking. Sew with right side to inside of stocking so that seam will be underneath the cuff. Write and embroider child's name on cuff. Add a Christmas bell and a loop for hanging.

# Special Christmas Projects



## The Shoe and Stocking Project

Robert A. Lobdell

**T**HIS PROJECT was appropriately planned as a Christmas present to those in need. As with most new ventures it started without much thought given to ways of determining the true need of the recipients. As years went by, however, better techniques were developed until, at the present, it is a well-organized activity closely coordinated with other agencies in the community that are in a position to lend professional assistance in individual case investigation.

What is it that holds a group together over a long period of time? This question has come before us many times in thinking of clubs and other organizations, and as to what can be done within a group to mold it into a closely knit unit for accomplishment.

Time and time again we all have sat in at meetings of various clubs where the principal subject of discussion has been, "What can our group do in the way of projects to make our membership feel that it is performing a worthwhile service to both the community and its members?" You will agree that any organization that is merely a talking group has very little chance of long-range success. An example of a project which has served to hold together such a group is the Shoe and Stocking Fund of the Downtown Kiwanis Club of Evansville, Indiana. This is not necessarily closely coordinated to recreation activities in a specific sense, but the philosophy behind the project and its method of operation presents techniques of group organization which

may readily be adapted to group operation in the recreation field.

Some twenty-four years ago a group of the Kiwanis members were searching for a long-range project in which all members of the club could participate, and one which would be of true service to the community. After sifting through many proposed ideas it was decided that one of the major activities of the club would be to supply shoes and stockings to as many needy children in the community as possible within the financial limits at their disposal.

Proof of the success of this venture is evidenced by the fact that in the past twenty-four years 8,930 pairs of shoes and 17,360 pairs of stockings have been distributed to needy children.

The method of obtaining names of possible recipients begins in the Kiwanis club, where each member is given an opportunity to submit names of children of grade school age whom they feel are deserving of this help. These names are turned over to a special committee of the club and further investigation is made through the cooperation of agencies such as the Red Cross, department of welfare, veterans organizations, Salvation Army, school teachers, and churches.

It is very important that careful scrutiny be given such a list to be sure that no duplication occurs and that the family or children are still residents of the community. An example of the importance of accuracy in compiling the list is shown where, in one case, a gift certificate was sent to a family for a child who had been deceased for two years. Careful explanation must be given to cooperating agencies to avert

such embarrassing situations.

A program such as this must be flexible enough to adapt itself to changing conditions. During World War II, the decrease of need for shoes and stockings in the grade school age group diminished considerably because of the high employment rate in the city. During that period, assistance was given to some of the aged who were in need, and to specific family units who had experienced a catastrophe of some kind. For example, on a Christmas Eve a family consisting of a man and wife and five children had their home burn to the ground with complete loss of all possessions. The Kiwanis club, along with other community organizations, gave assistance to this family in re-establishing a home and providing clothing for all members. At the end of the war, as employment became less, there again appeared the need for carrying out the original objective of the Shoe and Stocking Fund.

One of the Kiwanis members, who is also a past president of the club, is the owner of a department store and, since the inception of the project, has provided the shoes and stockings for the children at cost. Perhaps the outstanding factor in the program is the method by which the child actually receives a pair of shoes and stockings.

The technique used by the club serves to eliminate any embarrassment on the part of the individuals who receive the gifts. After each name on the list has been carefully screened, a Christmas gift card is made up and delivered in person by the Kiwanis member submitting the name. This card entitles the

MR. LOBDELL is the superintendent of recreation in Evansville, Indiana.



child or the parents of the child to go to the department store and pick out any pair of shoes they desire and two pairs of stockings, the only limitation being that they shall not be patent leather shoes or all-white shoes. The personal contact with the family serves to give a more personal aspect to the gift.

Only members of the Kiwanis club are permitted to participate in raising money for this project. At a meeting, usually in the middle of December, the committee presents its request for funds and a collection is made to finance the project. The results obtained by this method of contribution are surprising. In 1952, with an attendance of approxi-

mately 175 Kiwanians, a total of \$1,700 was collected at the meeting—in cash gifts.

Another interesting point in the technique of operation that is very important, in considering a needy family, is that all children of grade school age be included. This alleviates any situation in which a child feels he has been left out if he does not receive the same as his brothers or sisters. For the year 1952, 472 children were given a pair of shoes and two pairs of stockings.

As a second part of the special Christmas-fund program the shoe and stocking fund committee has developed the idea of a competition in decorating small Christmas trees, with prizes given

for the best. The ornaments are made of foil, tinsel, cellophane, and candy. These are prepared by the wives of the board of directors of the club, and are taken to needy families in the community—many of whom are also recipients of shoes and stockings. Another part of the program includes the giving of a toy to every child up to six years of age who is hospitalized in any city hospital on Christmas day.

From this type of club project we can see that activities such as these serve to hold a unit together and give them specific objectives to strive for—which partially answers the beginning question, "What is it that holds a group together over a long period of time?"



Wintertime brings a new series of playtime activities to Ontario; for here, as in most of Canada; the recreational pursuits of people are governed to a great extent by the weather. Not all of this province will be dressed in the garb of winter by Christmas. Much of the winter activity depends not so much upon man-made facilities as upon the appearance of snow and the freezing of ponds and streams. The people from the southern part of the province, who are enthusiastic, make regular tours to the north in quest of regions favourable to skis and the toboggan.

The irrepressible desire for skating facilities where ice is only casually available, however, has led to the production of skating surfaces by artificial means. There are now about two hundred ice arenas in Ontario, many of which have ice-making machinery and operate continuously from September to March. These community arenas are

MR. THOMPSON is adviser, *Park and Recreation Facilities, Community Programmes Branch of the Department of Education, Toronto, Ontario, Canada.*

## Winter Fun in Ontario

T. W. Thompson

built at costs varying from \$85,000 to \$350,000. Seating capacities range between two and five thousand so that spectator events are an important part of their operation. These buildings are often planned as community centers, with an auditorium included; and drama, dancing, and floor games are a part of the program.

Curling, a fine game for teen-agers and adults, which probably attracts more participants than any other winter sport, is becoming almost a national winter pastime. This game requires a specially prepared ice surface, and for this reason curling rinks are developed as separate units, often having ice-making plants to guarantee a long season of good ice.

Figure skating has gained tremendously in popularity since the arena has become more common, and in many cases a figure skating club has been organized, retaining a professional and producing a local figure-skating "carnival." This activity is particularly popular with girls from the age of six and up; and afternoon periods are used for it, when the demand for ice is not usually high.

Nearly every northern community in the province will have one or more outdoor skating and hockey rinks. These must be close to a water supply and on level land. They are constructed with

boards four feet high on an area about 185 by 85 feet. A "shack" for changing shoes and clothing and warming up is usually to be found close by, and in many cases the rinks are lighted even if only crudely. The artificial rinks in the southern sections are out-of-doors skating facilities with refrigerated ice surfaces. The size of these is 178 by 120 feet, allowing for a hockey rink 70 by 178 feet and a skating area 50 by 178. When skating is over, in March, the hockey boards are removed and the entire paved surface can be used for roller skating, outdoor dancing and tennis. The rink area provides four tennis courts.

The hilly nature of much of Ontario makes skiing a favorite sport. There are seventeen well developed ski resorts offering trails, tow hills, and open skiing, with hills from 175 to 750 feet in vertical drop. Toboggan slides and sled slopes are rarely prepared, but rather adapted for use. Very little bob-sled-ding is done.

As the winters become milder, the popularity of winter sports increases; and by means of modern engineering, ice—the most sought after surface for our best patronized sports—is being prepared regardless of climate, so that the people of Ontario will continue to enjoy the fun and competition of winter activities.



## Problems in the Small-Town Winter Program

Dan Reardon



Our location, in the Adirondacks, offers full advantages of downhill ski trails.

▲ In thinking of winter sports, it seems as though a recreation director is always making the mistake of comparing his efforts and results with those of the better known and more widely publicized communities where, perchance, many more factors can be called upon to help with the success of the program than would ever be possible in his particular community.

We in the East have Lake Placid's excellent winter carnival to compare with our own. The famous upstate resort—with the New York State Conservation Department maintaining its bobsled run, its ski slopes—is internationally famous for its spectacular events. It has its Olympic Arena, now maintained as a separate branch of local government, as the scene of many indoor activities. It must by nature attract outsiders.

In Glens Falls we realize, however, that our own winter carnival and program—though not on this scale—can bring enjoyment to local residents at Christmas time. The passage of the years has built up our Glens Falls winter carnival speed skating championships into not only the outstanding attraction of our events, but also to a very respectable position in skating circles in the eastern states. Our meet, sanctioned by the A.S.U., the national

MR. REARDON is the superintendent of recreation in Glens Falls, New York.



Lake Placid, widely publicized, can offer spectacular activities as dogsledding.

body which oversees all skating and is responsible for the Olympic skating team, has become recognized as one of the best outdoor meets in the country, attracting skaters from eastern Canada, New England, the mid-Atlantic states, as well as from New York and Ohio.

Naturally, as this event has grown, so has its support. The chamber of commerce, and the service clubs—Kiwanis, Exchange, Lions, Optimists, Rotary, Elks, and Business and Professional Women—who carried the load in the beginning, have continually added to their donations for fees, medals and prizes to make the expanded event possible. And now, many others are adding moral support where once it looked like a Herculean task to stage the first two or three meets. Today crowds of 2,500 are small crowds at our "big meet."

To any community with adequate

skating space, and a group of persons or clubs to make the necessary medals and trophies possible, this skating program can be a great interest-builder and well worth while. But it must be done in A-1 fashion, if you're going to do it at all.

Naturally enough, Glens Falls' winter carnival races are preceded by local races to build up interest—and last year the Exchange Club got behind the locals and purchased no less than twenty uniforms for the skating team, making it as attractively attired as any on the skating circuit.

Certain activities greatly depend upon circumstances such as weather, sufficient interest, and permission to use necessary facilities—such as skiing and hockey, both of which have been tried here and been moderately successful under ideal circumstances. But lest the program lose its over-all effectiveness,

these sports should not be forced unless their success looks fairly certain.

Coming as it does at Christmas time, activities of the seasonal program are a part of our local event. Each year the Girl Scouts handle the Christmas caroling, Santa in a jeep makes a tour of the city streets on Christmas Eve, making sure that all the little ones are bedded down early. Christmas decorations are judged and given proper recognition in the local press.

But where the Yuletide makes some events possible, so also does it tend to curtail other events of a winter-carnival nature. In the early days of winter carnival, its program included a winter-carnival dance, to provide social activity for the teen-agers. But in recent years, each of the two local schools (one high school and one parochial school), have run dances during the holidays, which have replaced the carnival dance. They also have held the election of kings and queens—one set to each school.

Snow or ice sculpture is always a spectacular event which Glens Falls has used, in years past, for ice thrones to be used in the ceremony of crowning its kings and queens. Recently, concentration has been upon snow sculpture, and several masterpieces have been forthcoming when the conditions for such were right. However, several recent Christmas seasons have left us "dreaming of a White Christmas."

Novelty features such as youngsters playing broom hockey, girls playing softball in a hockey box, rhythm skating, have been included.

In the past, Glens Falls had a real toboggan run which stimulated carnival feeling whenever it was open and available to the public. This magnificent means of winter activity, built high above the ground, was a source of pleasure to many, but its usage depended entirely on the weather—plenty of freezing nights and manpower-plus. Time came when winters seemed to shorten, and manpower was extremely difficult to get; and after several years, the seventeen-year-old landmark was torn down.

Yet strangely, there has been little or no resentment at the loss of the slide. Those who once were devoted to the

sport have found other hills, or other means of recreation in the out-of-doors, until the new generation doesn't even remember it.

Briefly summarizing, each of the activities needs a good sparkplug as a committee head, and a working group interested primarily in the particular event. Too many people make snowballs for others to push along; and you can't push 'em all.

A good winter program depends upon many things—facilities, weather,

and support from the people of the community itself. Do the youngsters want to do it? Do the adults want to do it? Not upon whether the youngsters want it done, whether the adults want it done—or whether you want it done yourself enough to do it almost alone.

Some communities respond easily and tire easily. Some will continue to respond, and some just won't respond at all. Don't become discouraged! Just think of the number of communities which don't have a winter program at all.

## TIPS without a Tumble

*Artificial Coasting Facilities*—A slide only a few feet high, erected on a playground, will provide fun for hundreds of children. Allow an incline three times as long as the height of the starting place. The slide should be at least four- to six-feet-wide, and if boards are used they are laid crosswise. Trestle work underneath should support the structure.

*Tin Pan Slide*—A tin pan, refuse or ash can cover will provide a good ride down many a well-packed snowbank.

*Sliding Surfaces*—The ice for the sliding surface may be prepared in several different ways. According to one method, slush (made by mixing snow and water) is spread over the entire slide to a thickness of one inch. Following a second method, the trough is filled with snow beaten down into a two-inch layer, then sprinkled with water. Of course the best possible sliding surface is freshly fallen snow packed in the trough. The slide should be inspected every night. Keep the ice in good condition by patching with slush beaten smoothly into any holes.

*Coasting Safety*—Use of a slide should be permitted only when it is carefully supervised. A starter should make sure that toboggans are not overloaded and that one toboggan does not start until the one ahead has left the bottom of the chute and can be unloaded before the arrival of the next toboggan. If it is absolutely impossible to get to a well-designed slide, select a slope which is not too steep and which has been

thoroughly cleared of all obstructions.

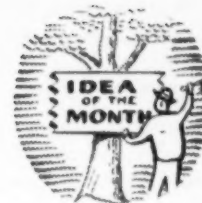
*Sled Parades*—Decorated sleds make an effective and exciting parade, with the giving of small awards for the most elaborate, humorous, fantastic, and so on.

*Trailing and Tracking*—This should be played in a large area where the snow is still fresh, and the night is bright with starlight. The first group, consisting of the "trail makers," should have a ten- to twenty-minute start, thus giving them time to make interesting trails. Blind trails, a double trail which circles in two directions, then merges again, are a few of many ideas that can be used.

*Follow the Leader*—This game can be adapted to a large or small area and can be made amusing by a clever leader who requires players to do stunts in the snow, step in his tracks, shake snow from overhanging branches, pass snowballs down the line or turn somersaults in the snow.

*Snow Sculpture Contest*—Everyone chooses some simple object to sculpture, or group can work in teams of two or three. Choices are kept secret. If possible, some pieces of wood should be provided to be used as foundation for the figures. Pile snow over this framework and cut away until figure appears. If snow is not sufficiently plastic, moisten it with a little water. Simple properties can be provided and used, such as stones, pipes, feathers. First of all, group must guess what the figure is. Prizes may be given for the funniest and for the best.

# IGLOOS FOR SANTA



Front section of igloo was hinged to simplify storage. The outside was painted grey and white to resemble ice blocks.

Christmas is a season of traditions. Every family has its traditions. Most churches and schools have traditions of pageants, decorations, carol sings, midnight services, parties and the like. Many communities have developed traditions of community Christmas trees, ways of decorating the streets, contests for decoration of doors and lawns.

Now, many recreation departments have developed Christmas traditions, too—ways of getting Santa into town, special programs for all age groups, Santa Claus villages, carol sings, workshops, Santa letter and telephone answering service.

It is always interesting to see a new tradition a-borning—especially when its popularity greatly exceeds its cost. Would you believe that \$27 could bring intense excitement and pleasure to 3,200 youngsters? Well, it did—and here's how!

The recreation department of the village of Scarsdale, Westchester County, New York, with the cooperation of the local chamber of commerce and others, won many new friends during Christmas week.

The construction of a relatively simple structure—The Igloo—at a most reasonable cost was the main attraction in town, reports Sal Prezioso, superintendent of recreation.

The reason? Why, Santa was there in the igloo, talking to children, distributing candy, giving assurance that he would be at their homes on Christmas Eve—providing that they were good little girls and boys.

## Immediate Objectives Attained

- ... Igloos and Santa in town added to Christmas spirit.
- ... Proved to be a convenience for busy parents, who were able to bring their children to a place close to home.
- ... Gave the children greater comfort and a closer feeling to "Santa."
- ... Children were able to spend more time and pay more than one visit.

## Remote Objectives Attained

... Parents brought their children to town, parked their cars, and after the visit shopped in town.

... The recreation department, by hinging the front faces of the igloos, and using borrowed tarpaulins for the roof and sides, could store the igloos easily for use next year.

## Material Needed and Costs for Two Igloos (2 Faces)

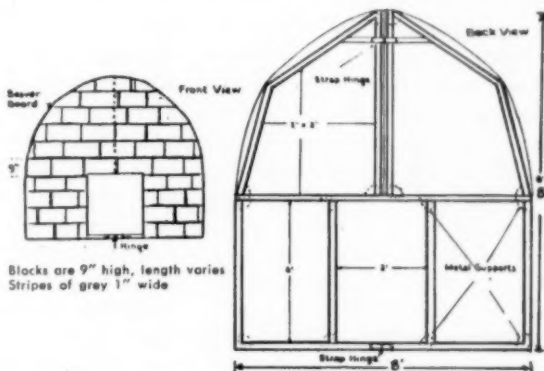
AMOUNT	DESCRIPTION	COST
7 lengths	1" x 2" x 12' common pine	\$ 8.20
3 lengths	1" x 2" x 8' clear white pine	1.92
	(Substitute 10 lengths of common pine if you want to cut the cost a little. Our carpenter was fussy, and wanted knotless lengths for the side braces.)	
2 pieces	4' x 8' beaver board	9.60
1 gallon	white outdoor paint	
½ pint	grey outdoor paint	
4	strap hinges	7.27
1 pound	fourpenny head nails	
1 box	¼-inch screws	
2	Boy Scout tents or tarpaulins (lent)	
		<hr/> \$26.99

## Labor

One man for ten hours.

## Locations

It was important to find spots which carried much traffic of children, that had parking accommodations and which also were near enough to lavatory accommodations and a well-heated building.



Our first spot was directly opposite the post office.  
Our second location was in the lobby of the town theatre.

#### *Cooperating Agencies*

Chamber of Commerce—Paid for materials and labor for the igloos; purchased wigs and beards for Santa; purchased candy which was given to children by Santa.

Salvation Army—Lent us Santa suits.

Construction Concern—Lent us the tarpaulins and set up the igloos.

Recreation Department—Organized and supervised project.

Theatre Management—Permitted the use of the theatre lobby and ran trailers advertising the project.

Local Newspaper—Placed spotlight on project for three weeks.

#### *Operating Schedule*

... Four days—Friday and Saturday—9 A.M.—7:00 P.M.

We used the two weekend dates before Christmas.

Attendance—3,200 youngsters.

#### *Results*

Laughter, tears, excitement and fun for the youngsters.

Convenience and pleasure for the parents.

Increased business for the merchants.

Satisfaction and appreciation from the community.

## Winter Camping Course

Del Wright

How many times have we ridden over a snow-encrusted highway with delight at the wonders of the blanket of snow before our eyes on every side? Or laid down the tracks of a pair of skis, or placed our feet in that soft, flawless powder? The promise of such surroundings has continually led more and more of us to seek out the snowy slopes each winter. But in most cases the fun ends there; we hurry back to our homes, and never concern ourselves with the possibility of camping in the snow. Why deny ourselves the experience of this thrill during the winter? We don't! Under the guidance of far-seeing instructors at the San Francisco State College, students are being taught winter camping as a regular course.

Long the dream of Vic York, recreation instructor at San Francisco State College, this winter-camping course has become a reality, and fills each session to capacity. The school camp, used in the summer months as a children's camp where recreation leaders receive supervised training, lends itself well to winter-camping activities. A fine ski run right next to the lodge, complete with rope tow, assures each camper of an opportunity to acquire the fine art of remaining erect on the slope. Courses for credit are also offered in beginning, intermediate, and advanced skiing under the direction of college ski instructors and student assistants.

But what does winter camping in-

clude? First, and most practically, we learn to sleep in the snow. To make a comfortable nest for ourselves we used the following tried and proven method. We dug a hole in the snow about two or three feet deep, covered the bottom with white fir branches (made a fine mattress), inserted a groundcloth (stopped the breezes and served as an insulator) and then placed our sleeping bag and blankets inside. We covered the hole with a tarpaulin and packed it around the edges with snow, leaving a small area for the entrance. When we finished skiing for the day, we dried off our skis and placed them crosswise under the tarp for added support. Now we were all set for our first night out in the snow! We changed our clothes in the lodge; put our ski boots on for tramping out in the snow, also our ski pants and for good measure added a jacket.

Have you ever tried to get ski boots and pants off in an area six feet long and three feet wide and three feet deep, with skis overhead and snow on all sides of you? First, lie flat on your back, raise one knee to your chest, and unfasten one boot; take care not to hit the boot against the snow or it'll drop on your bed. Repeat the procedure with the other boot. Next go to the pants. For this you remain on your back, unfasten the belt and raise the hips at the same time, taking care not to hit the overhead skis with your knees. Wiggle the pants down and off. The jacket is a cinch; doff it deftly and head for the sleeping bag. Hunch yourself up, knees under

your chin, and inch your way backward until you can tuck your toes into the top of the bag; slide slowly forward and in—once you're in, the exercise has so exhausted you that you can't help but sleep well!

Evenings find us gathered around the lodge fire singing songs, playing charades or reflecting on the pleasures of the day. Every day is filled to the brim with skiing under the sun, games of follow the leader over the flaky slopes, plying our skill on our slalom course and adding new ski techniques to our repertoire.

Cooking is handled by the students. The menu is planned by them in advance and then they divide themselves into groups of two or three to cook for each meal.

There is a waiting list for our winter trips that supports our contention of its value. Through this experience we learn the skills of skiing, the art of surviving in the snow and the manner of living together in a situation where everyone's fun depends on cooperation.

There are three winter camps: one during Christmas vacation in December, one between semesters in February, and another during Easter in April. We can accommodate one hundred students in our new lodge and suspect that there will be a demand in excess of this number! Additional plans are being made to lengthen our ski run and tow facilities. Pack trips over the snowy slopes are now an actuality and who can tell what new venture will be in our sights next? I'm already polishing my skis for this winter!

MISS WRIGHT is ski instructor at San Francisco State College Winter Camp.



was a long spearlike shaft of wood about six feet in length. In cutting down the stick a snake-like head was left on the butt end. The underside of the head was curved upward (E) and the bottom surface of the entire stick was slightly rounded (F). The snake head formed the forward or tip end.

In playing, the snow snake is hurled along the surface of a straight path in the snow (G). This groove was made by pulling a log through the snow in a straight course (H). Sometimes water is sprayed upon the surface of the depression to harden it.

Usually six form a team and each player tries to cast the snow snake along the furrow the greatest distance. In throwing, the index finger is held against the tail end, the thumb and remaining three fingers holding the stick in a horizontal position (I). Then bending forward in a sweeping motion, the player casts the "snake" ahead with a long, underhand movement (J).

### Playground Snow Snake<sup>3</sup>

A straight branch, three or four feet long and one and one-half or two inches thick, is used. The bark should be peeled and its tree whittled so that it looks smooth and pointed like the head of a snake. The other end should be rounded. An even stretch of snow is chosen and packed down. The snow snake is held down and shot forward for distance.

<sup>3</sup> From the bulletin, *California Centennial Observances—1948, 1949, 1950*, Department of Parks and Recreation, City of Los Angeles.



Snakes Are Often Decorated with Interesting Carved Designs

### QUICKIE GAME

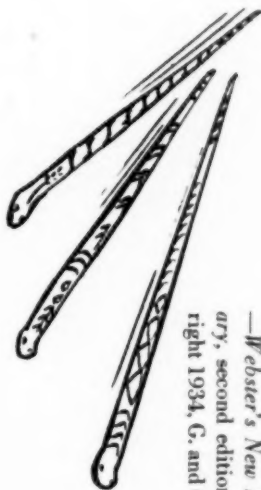
**Double Play**—Equipment required for this game is a ball, a tin can, and a hoop—an old embroidery hoop or one made from a piece of hose or wire will do. The ball must be small enough to go easily into the tin can and the hoop large enough to go over it. The can is sunk into the ground slightly or weighted with a rock to keep it from moving or tipping. Each player in turn tosses the ball and then the hoop at the can. Getting the ball into the can or ringing the can with the hoop counts five points. If the player gets the ball in the can and the hoop around it on the same turn, he scores fifteen points.

## Recipes for Fun

### Snow Snake

*Snow Snake*—An implement used in a North American Indian game in the form of a staff, or "snake," several feet long, to be hurled along ice or snowy ground.

—*Webster's New International Dictionary*, second edition, unabridged. Copyright 1934, G. and C. Merriam Company.



### Snow Snakes in Ontario<sup>1</sup>

*Snow snakes!* Sounds like something dreamed up by Munchausen—or the tall tales about "ice-worms," with which old-timers in the Arctic regale greenhorns.

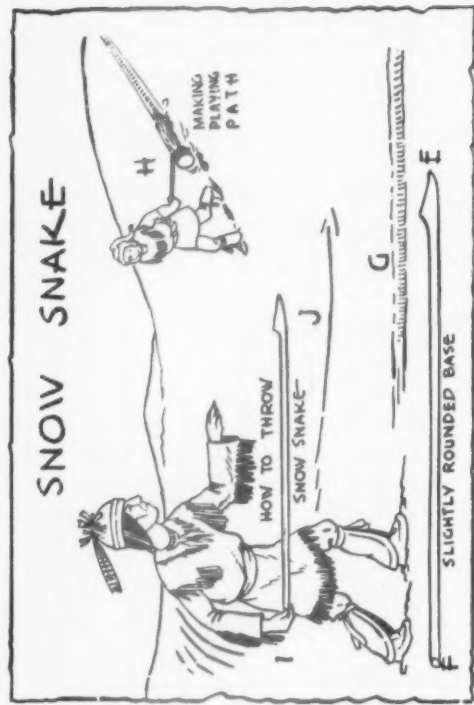
But a "snow snake" is actually a seven-foot-long polished wand-like hickory or maple shaft, an inch or more in diameter, with a snake's head carved at the front end. And throwing the wooden snow snake is a popular and exciting winter sport played by Canadian Indians on the Six Nations Reserve, near Brantford, Ontario.

"Hun-You! Hun-You!" the Indians shout as they launch their snow snakes along narrow snow troughs stretching through the snow covered fields farther than the eye can see. "Hun-You" is to snow snakes what "fore" is to golfers. Under ideal track and weather conditions an expert player can send a snow snake nearly a mile along the narrow icy channel. A three-quarter mile drive is average. It is doubtful if anywhere in the world there is a missile propelled solely by man's hand that goes as far and as fast as a thrown snow snake.

In the winter, as soon as the snow is deep enough, Indians on the reserve at Brantford prepare their snow-snake "tracks" by dragging an eight-inch tree trunk across the fields, thus forming a kind of rough trough. Then the snow is built up about three feet high on each side, with

<sup>1</sup> Condensed from "See Those Snow Snakes Go!" by Margaret K. Zieman, through courtesy of Imperial Esso & Happy Motoring magazine.

wood is weighted with the same material. At the throwing end there is a finger groove. So delicately are the shafts balanced, that when laid upon seemingly smooth ice, the snake starts moving by its own gravity to find the true level. The effect is startlingly life-like.



## An Iroquois Game

The skilled snow-snake craftsman designs different shapes and weights for varying weather conditions, ice, powder snow, wet snow, windswept or sheltered tracks. But the snake travels fastest in sharp cold weather.

No one seems to know how the game originated, although the Indians played it long before the coming of the white man.

The inter-reserve matches attract large crowds, and the game also has an international character, for picked teams from the reservation near Brantford each year cross the border to take part in international snow-snake match with teams of the Six Nations Indians living in New York State.

## Snow Snake—An Iroquois Game<sup>2</sup>

Snow snake was an Iroquois game played in winter. This was a winter game that could be played by individuals or teams. The "snow snake"

<sup>2</sup> Reprinted from *Nature Crafts* by Ellsworth Jaeger, published by the Macmillan Company, New York, 1950.

the grooved channel in the center. The sides of the track are smoothed down and sometimes sprinkled with water, so that when it freezes it becomes very fast. The speed at which the snow snake travels along this channel is all the more remarkable in that the track is not a downhill one but flows across level fields, at times dipping, rising and even curving. Some of the curves are as sharp as those in a country road.

The game calls for expert skill on the part of the contestants, but stance and delivery vary with the player. Like the expert bowler or curler, the snow snake thrower must use just the right amount of strength. If there is too much force behind it, the "snake" may jump the trough. When that happens it can and often does fly forty feet into the air—stampeding the spectators. So the game has its hazards. Even a snake that has practically spent its course has been known to pierce a leather boot.

Some players favor a sliding, others a rolling delivery. At the starting end of the track which is slightly raised, a "hack" or mound stops the player who takes a short run to get drive behind his throw. However, after delivery, experts "follow through" by sliding beside the range; others roll, some even somersault. The Indians certainly whoop it up when staging their snow snake matches.

This is one game in which the expert player also creates his tools—much as if a champion golfer were to make his own clubs. It takes two years to produce a good "snake." For a whole season the wooden shaft, which may be ironwood, maple or hickory, rests in oil. The carving and finishing are a secret art. The snake's head at the front end is banded with a ring of lead and the nose of this seven-foot length of polished hard-



## Listening and Viewing

### Films and Filmstrips

• **Water Safety**—TVA's water-safety film *Water Wisdom* is now showing. The film, in color or black and white, is 16mm and runs for twenty minutes. The plot together with sound tract vividly and dramatically portrays some of the everyday situations on our lakes which contribute to the many accidents and unnecessary loss of life by drowning. The TVA Information Office at Knoxville, Tennessee will provide further details on borrowing the film.

• **Filmstrip on Swimming Pool Sanitation**—May be obtained through your State Health Department, on free indefinite loan. The filmstrip, F-133, is also available from the Communicable Disease Center, Public Health Service of the Federal Security Agency, 50 Seventh Street, N.E., Atlanta 5, Georgia. It delineates some of the physical characteristics and the operating procedures basic to swimming-pool sanitation.

• **Children's Fairy Tales Filmstrip Series**—A delightful filmstrip series designed for use with the primary and intermediate grades has just been released by the Society for Visual Education, Incorporated, Chicago. Titles are: "Cinderella," "Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs," "Jack and the Beanstalk," "Sleeping Beauty," "The Little Engine That Could," and "Rackety Rabbit and the Runaway Easter Eggs." Each strip is in color, captioned, and averages thirty-six frames in length. Each list at \$5.00 with the complete set of 6 strips, No. A111S, at \$28.50. All are available from S.V.E. Dealers or by writing S.V.E., 1345 Diversey Parkway, Chicago 14, Illinois, for additional information.

• **Adolescent Development**—A series of five new movies, correlated with the college text *Adolescent Development*, by Dr. Elizabeth Hurlock, associate professor of child psychology, University of Pennsylvania, have been made by Crawley Films, Ltd., and released by the Text-Film Department of the McGraw-Hill Book Company. These films should be excellent discussion stimulants with adult groups. Write for rental information to McGraw-Hill Text-Films, 330 West 42nd Street, New York 36, New York.

• **Selected Motion Pictures**—This is the title of the new film catalog of Association Films, Incorporated, 347 Madison Avenue, New York 17, New York. More than 1,400 subjects are described, including 140 industrially-sponsored free-loan films. Association Films has, by the way, packaged outstanding Walt Disney subjects, under the title *Packages for Mickey*, in honor of the twenty-fifth birthday of Mickey Mouse. These may be rented separately, or grouped as the user wishes.

• **Annual-Rent-To-Own-Plan**—Indiana University films can now be obtained on this new plan, which leads to ownership. Write to the university Audio-Visual Center, Bloomington, Indiana, for details and list of films.

### Leads to Listening

A guide, *Leads to Listening*, has been prepared by Dr. Helen McCracken Carpenter for each of the new titles in the ENRICHMENT RECORDS series. (See Listening and Viewing, RECREATION, October 1953.) These will be supplied without charge to schools and libraries ordering the records. Write Huddleston, Enrichment Records, Incorporated, 246 Fifth Avenue, New York 1, New York.

### Book Week

For use during Book Week, November 15 to 21:

**Records**—Transcriptions from thirteen children's books are available for sale on 78 R.P.M.: twenty on L.P., from Chandler Records, 277 West 12th Street, New York 14, New York.

**Filmstrip**—A color film strip, entitled *Make Friends Through Books*, is available free of charge from CARE Film Unit, 600 First Avenue, New York 16, New York.

### Exhibit and Films

**Youth on the Campus**—An exhibit of forty pictures taken on the campuses of almost as many colleges and universities. Each photo is mounted on white art board, sixteen by twenty inches. Write Perry A. Ball, Exhibits Bureau, Public Service Office, Chicago Tribune.

**Free Films**—Write Chicago Tribune Film Bureau, 33 West Madison Street, Chicago, Illinois, for list of 16 mm sound films on all-star football games, boxing and other subjects.

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Mrs. Paul Gallagher

### Citation Presented

Mrs. Paul Gallagher, member of the board of directors of the National Recreation Association, has recently been presented with the following citation by the Junior League of Omaha: "The Junior League of Omaha confers this citation upon a charter member, past president and most distinguished citizen, Mrs. Paul Gallagher, in recognition of her outstanding contributions to the health, welfare and cultural interests of this community, and in appreciation of her acceptance of the chairmanship of Women's Participation in Omaha's Centennial Celebration."

Mrs. Gallagher is indeed one of the outstanding women of Omaha, and her limitless energy and interest on behalf of the community have won her a place of great respect and admiration in the eyes of Omaha's citizens.

In 1945 she became a member of the mayor's city-wide planning commission, which group undertook the tremendous task of planning five city commissions, a ten-year improvement plan for Omaha, and a \$12,000,000 bond issue. Mrs. Gallagher served as chairman of the section that planned the parks and recreation commission. After this commission was accepted, along with the others, she became a member, and eventually its chairman. The accomplishments since then have been many, among which are such completed projects as three swimming pools, six baseball fields and grandstands, a park pavilion, and Frederick J. Adams Park.

At present, Mrs. Gallagher is a member of the board of directors of the United Community Services and chair-

man of the Senior Citizens Program, in addition to her chairmanship for Women's Participation in the Omaha Centennial celebration, the city's coming major event.

### Coming Events

*November 9*—Annual Meeting of the Play Schools Association, New York.

*November 9-11*—2nd Annual Tennessee Recreation Conference, Memphis.

*November 12-14*—Annual Convention of the National Society for Crippled Children and Adults, Chicago.

*November 13-20*—36th Annual Conference of the American Occupational Therapy Association, Houston, Texas.

### Recent Appointments

*Harry Van Bellem*, superintendent of recreation, Torrance, California; *Archie Cardillo*, gym director, Benefit Street Recreation Center, Providence, Rhode Island; *A. E. Champion*, director of parks, East Baton Rouge, Louisiana; *Carol J. Christensen*, recreational therapist, Rosewood State Training School, Owings Mills, Maryland; *Howard Coval*, assistant superintendent of recreation, Shelton, Connecticut; *Robert J. Curry*, recreation assistant, Stuyvesant Town, New York; *James J. Donahue*, president, Recreation Commission, Linden, New Jersey; *Paul Dreska*, director, Teen-Age Center, Westbury, Long Island; *James D. Duffy*, chairman, Board of Recreation Commissioners, Hillside, New Jersey; *Karl F. Edler, Jr.*, supervisor, recreation for older adults, United Community Services, Omaha, Nebraska; *Mildred Elkins*, recreation director, Veterans Hospital, Durham, North Carolina; *V. Spate Felton*, recreation director, Carolina Beach, North Carolina; *Martha L. Fuller*, recreation worker, Community Center, Callaway Mills, La Grange, Georgia; *Gordon J. Guetzlaff*, superintendent of recreation, Atchison, Kansas; *Joseph Halper*, area recreation supervisor, Prince Georges County, Riverdale, Maryland; *Wayne Hauser*, recreation program specialist,

Yuma, Arizona; *Gwendolyn Hawkins*, girls' worker, Crispus Attucks Center, Lancaster, Pennsylvania; *Clesson Henningsen*, group leader, Lewis Street Center, Rochester, New York; *H. M. Leaman*, chairman, Recreation Commission, Whiteville, North Carolina; *Maurie Luxford*, president, Los Angeles Recreation and Park Commission, Los Angeles, California; *William A. Moore*, superintendent of city parks and recreation, Louisville, Kentucky; *Richard L. Pasvolsky*, superintendent of recreation, Montpelier, Vermont; *Ruth Peeler*, curator, Ginko State Park, Washington; *Henry K. Perry*, assistant director of recreation, Burlington, North Carolina; *James A. Peterson*, superintendent of recreation, Emporia, Kansas; *Herbert Rathner*, area recreation supervisor, Prince Georges County, Riverdale, Maryland; *Doris J. Rauti*, recreation assistant, Peter Cooper Village, New York, New York; *Mary L. Robinson*, program worker, Booker Washington Center, Rockford, Illinois; *Emsy L. Rubin*, service club director, Sheppard Air Force Base, Wichita Falls, Texas; *Mrs. Holly Tracy*, director of special activities, Playground and Recreation Department, Iowa City, Iowa; *Patricia Veisen*, recreation worker, Bellevue Hospital, New York, New York.

### Retired

Mrs. Agnes Henagan, superintendent of the women's department of the park and recreation board in Birmingham, Alabama, started a well-earned retirement in July. After forty years of teaching Birmingham how to play, Mrs. Henagan is going to do just that herself.

Her resourceful and fun-filled childhood, together with her talents for arts and crafts, dramatics, dancing, gardening and many other creative endeavors, could lead only to her successful and happy career in recreation—a career which has brought enrichment to countless numbers of Birmingham's citizens.

We congratulate Agnes Henagan for the splendid work she has done in Bir-



mingham and extend best wishes for her happiness.

### In Memorium

*Mrs. Edith Costello Cheney* of Corning, New York, former assemblywoman and active member of the State Federation of Women's Clubs, died in her home on September 1, after a two-month illness. Mrs. Cheney, who was appointed by Governor Dewey as field representative of the State Youth Commission, helped to establish fifty local youth recreation bureaus. She also was an active participant, for a good part of her life, in the Girl Scouts.

*Miss Elizabeth Berkley Grimboll*, who some years ago did field service for the National Recreation Association conducting drama leadership workshops, passed away on August 30 in Charleston, South Carolina.

After graduating from the Boston School of Expression, Miss Grimboll taught dramatics at Converse College in Spartanburg. She was also a student of Norman Bel Geddes, the famous stage designer. For many summers, she helped to produce and direct plays at Woodstock, New York, and Brattleboro, Vermont. Before 1938, when Hitler closed Austria to foreign groups, she had directed an American Theatre Seminar as a branch of the Salzburg Drama and Music Festival. Miss Grimboll had also been the founder of both the New York School of the Theatre and the Children's Theatre in Charleston.

*John P. McGoorty*. The Chicago Recreation Commission has suffered a great loss with the passing of their friend and leader, Judge John P. McGoorty.

Because of his own enthusiastic interest in sports, he was interested in the recreation movement as a whole, and became associated with the Chicago Recreation Commission when it was established in 1934. In addition to many other civic enterprises and a very active professional life, Judge McGoorty undertook the responsibilities of chairman of the commission with high purpose and sincerity. He died in Chicago August 23, after a lingering illness.

*Dr. Lee M. Thurston*, United States Commissioner of Education, died Sep-

tember 4 from a heart ailment. He was fifty-eight.

Dr. Thurston began his career as a high school science teacher in Manistee, Michigan, thirty-three years ago. Six years later he was appointed superintendent of schools for Perry, a position he held for five years. In 1931 he became assistant superintendent for Ann Arbor and, after four years, was named state deputy superintendent of public instruction. In 1938 he became professor of education at the University of Pittsburgh, remaining at this post for six years, after which he returned to his job in Michigan as deputy superintendent of public instruction.

Dr. Thurston was a member of many educational organizations, including the Educational Policies Commission of the National Education Association. He was a believer in progressive education and thought that the responsibility for good schools lay with the community, rather than with the federal government. Dr. Thurston took office as United States Commissioner of Education on the second of July this year.

*Kenneth V. C. Wallace*, secretary of the Essex County Park Commission and director of the park police, died on August 10. Mr. Wallace was born in Newark in 1889 and, at the age of seventeen, went to work for the commission as an engineer's helper. He served in various engineering capacities, finally becoming principal assistant engineer. He was appointed deputy secretary in 1933, and then secretary of the commission April 15, 1936, at which post he remained until his untimely death.

Mr. Wallace devoted his adult life entirely to the people of Essex County through his park work, and rendered invaluable service to many civic organizations.

### Job Opportunities

#### Recreation Director— Oakland, California

The Oakland Recreation Department is seeking qualified and promising young men in all parts of the country to fill entrance professional positions of recreation directors to conduct and direct activities at a public recreation center or playground, under supervision.

Salary scale is \$315 to \$375 per

month, depending on assignment, with living quarters included in compensation for some.

Requirements include U. S. citizenship (but not state residency), and college graduation, plus at least two years of part-time experience as a recreation or group worker.

Applications must be filed by Thursday, November 5, 1953. For applications and announcements, write: Civil Service Board, Room 323, City Hall, Oakland 12, California. Examination at a convenient civil service office may be arranged for interested candidates.

#### Recreation Supervisor— Phoenix, Arizona

Men interested in recreation as a career service are sought by the City of Phoenix to apply for the position of recreation supervisor. Salary range for this position is \$330 to \$420 per month, and a qualified applicant may expect to begin at \$360 per month.

College graduation with specialization in recreation or physical education is required, plus considerable recreation supervisory experience in both indoor and outdoor programs. The job requires administrative work in coordinating a city-wide program, and participation in an expanding recreation program for city residents.

Men between 21 and 45 who are interested in a challenging opportunity are encouraged to communicate immediately with L. J. Brenneman, Personnel Director, City Hall, Phoenix, Arizona, about opening and examination. State residence is not required.

This is worth investigating. . . .

#### Graduate Scholarship— Mississippi Southern College

Through the Graduate School of Education, Mississippi Southern College, a graduate scholarship is open to a qualified woman. Stipend is \$375 for the academic year, with opportunity for additional income. Candidates should have broad recreational talents, and background in physical education.

Applications are now being received for the position, with the appointment effective December 1, 1953 (winter quarter). Write Dean, Graduate School of Education, Mississippi Southern College, Hattiesburg, Mississippi.

# How To Do It!

by *Frank A. Staples*

## A CHRISTMAS CALENDAR



### MATERIALS

White Cardboard, Construction Paper, Paste, Tissue Paper, Water Color Paints.

### METHOD

1. Draw house shaped calendar on cardboard and cut out. See sketch A for suggested size of house and windows. However any desired size can be made. Keep in mind that the windows cannot be too small or the pictures painted in them will be too small.

2. Cut out windows with razor blade. See sketch B.

3. Make blinds—use red or green construction paper. See sketch C.

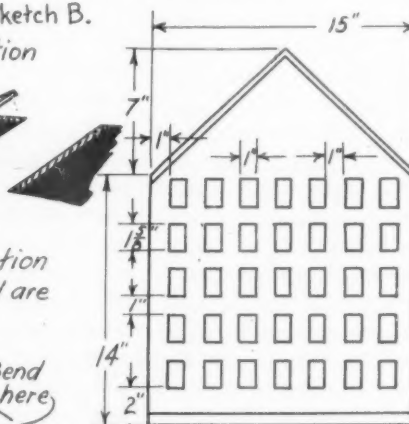
4. Paste blinds in place as shown in sketch D.

*Note: At the beginning and end of each row of windows a single blind type of construction is needed. All other blind positions used are a double blind type of construction.*

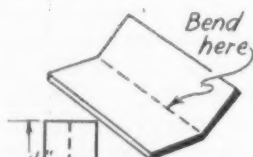
5. Paste white tissue paper on back of house shape so that all windows are covered.



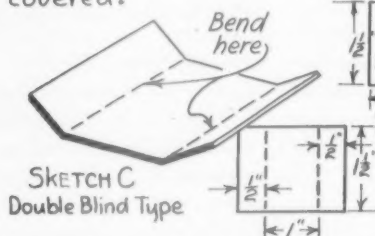
SKETCH B.



SKETCH A.



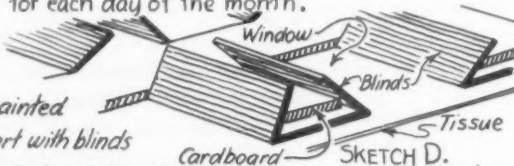
SKETCH C.  
Single Blind Type



SKETCH C.  
Double Blind Type

6. Paint date for each day on the blinds so that the date shows when blind is closed.

7. Paint appropriate pictures in each window space for each day of the month.



*Note: Have light shine through tissue painted windows from the back of calendar. Start with blinds all closed, on Dec. 1st. open blinds on window 1—Dec. 2nd open blinds on window 2 etc.*

## PET IDEAS—in Maintenance

From the Great Lakes District Recreation Conference

### A REPAIR RECORD GRAND FORKS, NORTH DAKOTA

At the office of the Board of Park Commissioners a complete repair record on all equipment is used. Originally intended for trucks and power machinery, the record now lists all major equipment, giving the date of purchase, original cost including freight, the serial and model number, and so on. All repairs and additional parts are listed on the record sheet so that at a glance the department can tell when the machinery has begun to cost too much in repairs and should be replaced. It is

also a most convenient record to refer to when any question arises concerning dates when repairs or new parts were purchased, cost, and so on.

### STANDARDIZATION OF MATERIALS AND EQUIPMENT CHICAGO PARK DISTRICT

The Chicago Park District has standardization on materials and equipment. They attempt to use non-caustic materials. Soaps are the vegetable oil variety; wax and seals are devoid of any material that would be injurious to floors. Products that are bought are

sent to their own chemist for analysis to establish their efficiency, and so on. The two principal advantages gained by this standardization of equipment and materials is greater efficiency of operation and economy of purchases. It can readily be seen that the transferring of an employee from one park to another poses no problem since the same equipment and materials are used in each of the park buildings.

### YOUTH CENTER WALLS BLOOMINGTON, INDIANA

Teen-age figures have been painted on the Youth Center walls in Bloomington—to eliminate writing on the walls throughout the building—artists are encouraged to utilize the figures for this purpose.

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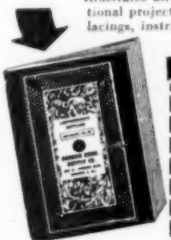
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# MARKET NEWS

## Patch Kit

The Sportsman's Patch Kit, a complete kit for patching and repairing a wide variety of torn and broken items—sports equipment, craft articles, and so



on—containing assorted patching materials, buffer, and cement is a worthy product now available on the market. The Hughes Company, 8 West 40th Street, New York 18.

## Bird Call Record

Songs and calls of forty-nine species of birds—all on one long-playing microgroove record—have been recorded by Columbia Records, Inc., and endorsed by National Audubon Society. "Bird Songs of Dooryard, Field and Forest" should prove a boon to nature study programs. Jerry E. Stillwell, R.F.D. 2, Fayetteville, Arkansas.

## Snow Plow

Jari Champion Rotary Snow Plow is a new self-propelled maintenance unit to simplify the winter care of outside areas—and sickle and mower attach-



ments are available for conversion to other seasonal uses. Jari Products Company, Inc., Minneapolis 8, Minnesota.

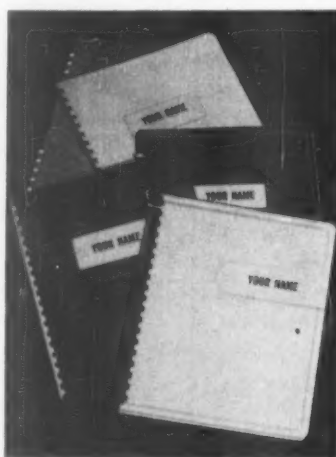
## Artificial Ice Rink

An artificial ice rink, the Beltemp,

Model 66—portable icemaker and package ice-skating rink—was put into operation on an experimental basis in May in Detroit. The rink was laid on the tennis court and measured 70 by 140 feet. It was designed for 50 degrees outside temperature and 10,000 square feet of ice surface, and was completely constructed for less than \$4.00 per square foot of ice surface. For information write to Charles R. Beltz and Company, 11029 Whittier Avenue, Detroit 29, Michigan.

## Booklet Covers

Those looking for ways to make their reports, presentations, manuals, and other literature more attractive will be interested in the line of stock covers recently introduced. Designed specifically for use with plastic binding equip-



ment, the covers provide a system for assembling loose pages into attractive booklets easily in a matter of seconds. General Binding Corporation, 812 West Belmont Avenue, Chicago 14, Illinois.

## Novel Oil Pen

Designed to the shape and the size of a regular fountain pen, the new, leak-proof, fool-proof, Oillette is the ideal answer to those difficult oiling problems according to the manufacturer. It can be used to get into most hard-to-get-at places in maintenance equipment,

typewriters, sports equipment, and so forth—not to mention hard-to-oil precision machinery and instruments. Autopoint Company, 1801 Foster Avenue, Chicago 40, Illinois.

## Rolling Folding Table

A new rolling folding table, designed without benches for economy institutional seating has been announced by a



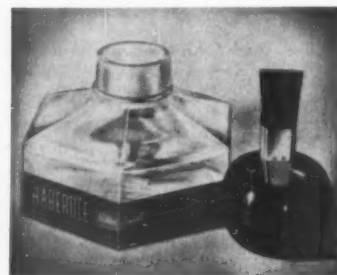
national manufacturer of school and industrial seating equipment. Designated the Sico L-B Table, it will seat up to 14 persons around its entire perimeter, yet will fold down for storage in an area of only 7.3 square feet. Seating, Inc., Department KP, 6045 Pillsbury Avenue, Minneapolis, Minnesota.

## Equipment Catalog

A new Game-time play and gymnasium equipment catalog showing apparatus with "built-in safety" is available by writing the company: Game-time, Inc., Litchfield, Michigan.

## New Rubber-Cement Dispenser

A new rubber cement dispenser has been specially designed to overcome the major drawbacks of old-fashioned dispensers which have plagued artists, hobbyists, craftsmen, editors, printers,



and other users for year. Haberule, Box P-737, Norwalk, Connecticut. (If you're not familiar with rubber cement for pasting jobs on scrap books, posters, and so on, try it—you'll like it!)



## Books Received

- BLAZER THE BEAR**, Robert V. Masters and Fred Reinfeld. Sterling Publishing Co., New York 16. Pp. 60. \$2.00.
- BOOK OF GAMES FOR BOYS AND GIRLS**, THE, Evelynne Borst. A. S. Barnes and Co., New York 16. Pp. 277. \$3.50.
- BOOK OF LITTLE CRAFTS**, A, Margaret Powers. Chas. A. Bennett Co., Inc., Peoria 3, Ill. Pp. 114. \$2.95.
- COACHING FOOTBALL AND THE SPLIT "T" FORMATION**, James M. Tatum and Warren K. Giese. Wm. C. Brown Co., Dubuque, Iowa. Pp. 277. \$3.75.
- CHILD PSYCHOLOGY**, Lester D. Crow and Alice Crow. Barnes & Noble, Inc., New York 3. Pp. 267. \$1.50.
- COKEBURY STUNT BOOK**, THE, A. M. Depew. Revised Edition. Abingdon-Cokesbury Press, 150 Fifth Avenue, New York 11. Pp. 391. \$2.95.
- COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION FOR NEIGHBORHOOD DEVELOPMENT—PAST AND PRESENT**, Sidney Dillick. The Woman's Press, 425 Fourth Avenue, New York 16. Pp. 198. \$4.00.
- CRITERIA FOR RETIREMENT**, Geneva Mathiasen. G. P. Putnam's Sons, 210 Madison Avenue, New York 16. Pp. 233. \$3.50.
- EDUCATORS GUIDE TO FREE FILMS**, compiled and edited by Mary Foley Horkheimer and John W. Diffor. Thirteenth Annual Edition, 1953. Educators Progress Service, Randolph, Wis. Pp. 516. \$6.00.
- EDUCATORS GUIDE TO FREE SLIDEFILMS**, compiled and edited by Mary Foley Horkheimer and John W. Diffor. Educators Progress Service, Randolph, Wis. Pp. 185. \$4.00.
- FISHERY SCIENCE**, George A. Rounsefell and W. Harry Everhart. John Wiley and Sons, Inc., 440 Fourth Avenue, New York 16. Pp. 444. \$7.50.
- GARDENS AND GARDENING, VOLUME FOUR—ROCK, WALL AND WATER**. The Studio Publications, New York 16. Pp. 143. \$4.50.

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### 1953 PROCEEDINGS

of the

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**\$2.25**

*Available in December*

**NATIONAL RECREATION ASSOCIATION**  
315 Fourth Avenue, New York 10, N. Y.

- GOLF AS I PLAY IT**, Ronnie White. The British Book Center Inc., 122 East 55th Street, New York 22. Pp. 160. \$3.50.
- GOLF MADE EASY**, J. E. Kavanagh. The William-Frederick Press, New York 1. Pp. 62. \$2.00.
- GROUP WORK WITH THE AGED**, Susan H. Kubie and Gertrude Landau. International Universities Press, Inc., 227 West 13th Street, New York 11. Pp. 214. \$3.50.
- GUIDE FOR GAMES**, A, D. Cyril Joynson. The British Book Center, Inc., New York 22. Pp. 294. \$3.25.
- HANDCRAFTS FOR ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS**, Frank C. Moore, Carl H. Hamburger, Anna-Laura Kingzett. D. C. Heath and Co., New York 14. Pp. 316. \$5.00.
- HEART FOR BASEBALL**, THE, Marion Renick. Charles Scribners Sons, 597 Fifth Avenue, New York 17. Pp. 234. \$2.25.
- MY SWING**, Henry Cotton. The British Book Center, Inc., New York 22. Pp. 144. \$3.95.
- PASTIMES FOR TWO**, Albert A. Ostrow. Harper and Bros., New York 16. Pp. 144. \$2.50.
- PLAY FOOTBALL SAFELY**, George E. Koontz. The William-Frederick Press, New York 1. Pp. 47. Paper cover \$2.00.
- RACIAL AND CULTURAL MINORITIES**, George Eaton Simpson and J. Milton Yinger. Harper and Bros., New York 16. Pp. 773. \$6.00.
- REHABILITATION OF THE PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED**, Henry H. Kessler. Revised Edition. Columbia University Press, New York 27. Pp. 275. \$4.00.
- SUCCULENT PLANTS**, A. Bertrand. Philosophical Library, 15 East 40th Street, New York 16. Pp. 112. \$4.75.

## Pamphlets

- BRIDGING THE GAP BETWEEN SCHOOL AND COLLEGE**. The Fund for the Advancement of Education, 575 Madison Avenue, New York 22. Pp. 127.
- BUILDING AMERICA'S HEALTH**. Health Publications Institute, Inc., 216 North Dawson Street, Raleigh, N. C. Pp. 143. \$1.50.
- DOING SOMETHING FOR THE DISABLED**, Mary E. Switzer and Howard A. Rusk. Public Affairs Committee, Inc., 22 East 38th Street, New York 16. Pp. 28. \$25.
- HOW TO ORGANIZE A BASEBALL LEAGUE**. Little-Bigger League and the Ameri-

- can Baseball Congress, P. O. Box 44, Battle Creek, Mich. Pp. 16. \$25.
- IDEAS FOR BOOKCASES AND BOOK-SHELVES**. Lane Publishing Co., Menlo Park, Calif. Pp. 80. \$1.00.
- IMPROVING CHILDREN'S LEARNING ABILITY**, Harry N. Rivlin. Science Research Associates, 57 West Grand Avenue, Chicago 10, Ill. Pp. 48. \$40.
- JOURNAL OF SOCIAL WORK PROCESS**. College Offset Press, 148-150 North 6th Street, Philadelphia 6. Pa. Pp. 45. \$1.00.
- MAKING FOREIGN POLICY**, USA, Anne Hartwell Johnstone and Georgianna F. Mitchell. Carrie Chapman Catt Memorial Fund, Inc., 461 Fourth Avenue, New York 16. Pp. 43. \$25.
- PLANNING YOUR JOB FUTURE**, Emery Stoops and Lucile Rosenheim. Science Research Associates, Chicago 10. Pp. 40. \$40.
- SARGENT GUIDE TO SUMMER CAMPS**, THE. Porter Sargent, 11 Beacon Street, Boston 8, Mass. Pp. 111. \$1.10.
- SWIMMING POOL DATA & REFERENCE ANNUAL—1953 EDITION**. Hoffman, Harris, Inc., 425 Fourth Avenue, New York 16. Pp. 154. \$3.00.
- WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT COMMUNISM**, Alfred G. Meyer. Science Research Associates, Chicago 10. Pp. 48. \$40.
- WORKSHOP HANDBOOK**, THE, Walter A. Anderson, Rollin P. Baldwin and Mary Beauchamp. Bureau of Publications, Teachers College, Columbia University, New York 27. Pp. 65. \$1.00.
- YEAR BOOK 1951-52, PART I—JEWISH COMMUNITY CENTER FIELD**. The National Jewish Welfare Board, 145 East 32nd Street, New York 16. Pp. 98. \$1.00.
- YOUR OWN BOOK OF CAMPCRAFT**, Catherine T. Hammett. Pocket Books, Inc., New York 20. Pp. 197. \$35.

## Magazines

- BEACH AND POOL**, September 1953  
The Pool Filter System, Welding Engineering Corporation.  
Underwater Vacuum Cleaning, William Berens.  
A Community Swimming Program, Refinite Corporation.  
Design Portfolio. XV: Miscellaneous Equipment.
- PARK MAINTENANCE**, August 1953  
Watering Correctly is an Art, Leo J. Feser.



## new Publications

*Covering the Leisure-time Field*

### American School and University

American School Publishing Corporation, 470 Fourth Avenue, New York 16. Pp. 1,060. \$5.00.

The 1953-54 edition (25th volume) of this Annual, maintains the high standards set in earlier issues. It is an indispensable source for all who are concerned with the planning and operation of educational buildings and also contains information of great value to persons concerned with the field of recreation. A significant emphasis in the current volume is the relationship between school planning and planning for the entire community or region. Especially useful for reference purposes is the index of articles that have appeared in previous volumes.

Among the many articles in the current volume that merit study by recreation authorities are, "School Auditorium, Its Purpose and Design," "California All-Weather Pool," "The Arts and Crafts Shop," "Planning a Ceramics Shop," and "Good Maintenance Practices: a Symposium." One entitled, "Shrubbery in School Sites," with plans for the progressive development of a school area, offers valuable suggestions that are equally applicable to other types of recreation areas.

The many illustrations and plans that accompany various articles add to the appearance and usefulness of the volume, and the comprehensive listing of manufacturers of equipment affords a valuable reference source.—George D. Butler, Research Department, National Recreation Association.

### Modern Music-Makers

Madeleine Goss, E. P. Dutton and Company, Incorporated, New York 10. Pp. 499. \$10.00.

Those enlisted in the cause of American music will find in this book material to aid their campaign. The author stresses the more serious contemporary music makers like Howard Hanson, Deems Taylor, John Alden Carpenter, Aaron Copland, Roger Sessions and Leo Sowerby, but almost half of the

thirty-seven composers represented have contributed lighter and even popular pieces, including songs, dances, hymns, ballads, operas and other music for the stage.

In each case Miss Goss supplies photographs and biographical data, the latter not only in factual listing form but enlivened with backgrounds of heredity and environment, and with quotable anecdotes. Thus, she sketches in the series of meetings and debates which Virgil Thomson had with Gertrude Stein, and their part in the writing of his music-drama, "Four Saints in Three Acts."

The appreciation of unfamiliar music is stimulated by associations of this kind. However, the same is true even for such better known works as Roy Harris' "When Johnny Comes Marching Home," Morton Gould's "Cowboy Rhapsody" and Leonard Bernstein's ballad "Fancy Free."

### Music and Your Emotions

Emil A. Gutheil, M.D., Jay T. Wright, Ph.D., Vincent R. Fischelli, Ph. D., Frances Paperte, Alexander Capurso, Ph.D. Liveright Publishing Corporation, 386 Fourth Avenue, New York 16. Pp. 128. Paper \$2.00, Cloth \$3.00.

Several doctors, psychologists and researchers in the use of music as an aid in therapy have collaborated in assembling the material for this little book, which has been prepared for the Music Research Foundation Incorporated. Its purpose is to serve as a practical guide to music selections associated with desired emotional responses.

Based on two studies—one with patients at the Walter Reed Hospital in Washington and the other with normal college students, the book lists a number of compositions, mostly of the more familiar type, classified according to such mood categories as happy, gay, nostalgic, sentimental, stimulating, eerie, and so on. The authors' conclusions are often tentative, and reflect only their own and the listeners' opinions on the emotional strength and effectiveness of the music. Nevertheless

there is a place for such guidance, and not only in hospitals and mental institutions.

There are brief chapters on the history of research in music therapy, the evaluation of music as a therapeutic agent, and the work of the Music Research Foundation.—Gertrude Borchard, Correspondence and Consultation Service, National Recreation Association.



FOR CHRISTMAS



### Planning a little Christmas play?

Don't fail to look up "Christmas Eve in the Deep Forest." It's in *The Christmas Book*. Available for fifty-cents from the National Recreation Association, 315 Fourth Avenue, New York 10, N.Y.

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Gnome	Brother Pig	Chick Chick
Roo	Duck Duck	Rabbit
Kanga	Buggsy Bear	Santa

*Plus*—any other animals, or animal families.

Short, easy to stage, amusing—and different!

### Christmas Toys

In the November *Popular Science*, Mrs. Rowena Shoemaker, assistant director of Play Schools Association, tells how to build safe, sturdy, enjoyable toys for children.

Mrs. Shoemaker, who collaborated on her article with Martin Mann, special assignment editor for *Popular Science*, sets forth all details for building five complete constructive play outfits. Designed for years of use and made of durable materials, they can easily be altered to suit the different interests of various age levels. Don't miss this feature!



# Recreation Leadership Courses

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**November and December 1953**

HELEN M. DAUNCEY Social Recreation	Bay Minette, Alabama November 2-5	C. F. Taylor, Supervisor of Instruction, Baldwin County Schools
	Greensboro, Alabama November 16-19	Robert E. Ramey, Superintendent, Hale County Schools
ANNE LIVINGSTON Social Recreation	Galveston, Texas November 2-5	William Schuler, Superintendent of Recreation, 2119 Twenty-seventh Street
	Temple, Texas November 9-12	Jamie Bonner, Director of Parks and Recreation, Recreation Center
	Oklahoma City, Oklahoma November 16-19	Alvin Eggeling, Superintendent of Recreation, City Hall
	Portales, New Mexico November 30—December 3	Joseph F. Dickson, Chairman of the Division of Health and Physical Education, Eastern New Mexico University
	Sumter, South Carolina December 8-11	Harry R. Bryan, City Recreation Director, Recreation Department
MILDRED SCANLON Social Recreation	Marietta, Georgia November 2-5	Dr. J. Eugene Welden, Coordinator Special Services, University of Georgia, Division of General Extension, Athens
	Columbus, Georgia November 9-12	Dr. J. Eugene Welden, Coordinator Special Services, University of Georgia, Division of General Extension, Athens
	Tifton, Georgia November 16-19	Dr. J. Eugene Welden, Coordinator Special Services, University of Georgia, Division of General Extension, Athens
FRANK A. STAPLES Arts and Crafts	Moscow, Idaho November 2-5	Frank J. Reich, Director of Recreation
	Salt Lake County, Utah November 16-19	John J. McGurk, Superintendent, Department of Recreation, City Hall, Salt Lake City
	Rochester, New York December 9-11	Rex M. Johnson, Secretary Character Building Division, 70 North Water Street, Council of Social Agencies, Inc.
GRACE WALKER Creative Recreation	NAIRO Conference Minneapolis, Minnesota November 2-12	Mrs. Helen Mudgett, University Extension Division, University of Minnesota

Attendance at training courses conducted by National Recreation Association leaders is usually open to all who wish to attend. For details as to location of the institute, contents of course, registration procedure, and the like, communicate with the sponsor of the course as listed above.

## RECREATION

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# Out of the Dark, a Red Grenade

*Corporal*  
*Duane Edgar Dewey, USMCR*  
*Medal of Honor*



IT WAS AN APRIL NIGHT and the Marines, near Panmunjom, were under heavy attack. In one of E Company's machine gun emplacements, Corporal Duane Dewey and his assistant gunner lay on the ground, wounded. A Navy Medical corpsman was giving them aid. Out of the darkness, and into the group, lobbed a live Red grenade.

Although he was already seriously wounded, and in intense pain, Corporal Dewey pulled the aid man to the ground, shouted a warning to the other Marine and threw himself over the missile.

"I've got it in my hip pocket, Doc!" he yelled. Then it exploded.

By smothering the blast with his own body, Corporal Dewey had saved his comrades' lives.

"Now that I'm back in civilian life," says Corporal Dewey, "I sometimes hear people talk as though stopping Communism is a job only for our armed forces and the government. Believe me, it's our job, too. And one way we can both do that job is through saving and investing in United States Defense Bonds."

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